DAILY REPORT

Asia & Pacific

Vol IV No 043	5	March	1	985
JAPAN				
Nakasone, Syria's Al-Shar' Discuss Mideast Peace MITI To Review Auto Export Policy 'Carefully'			C	1
Breakthrough on Stalled Aviation Talks Sought			C	1
EC Director Phan Says Talks 'Disappointing' Unofficial Finance Talks Held			CCCC	1 2 2 3 3
			C	2
Fishery Talks With USSR To Resume 13 March PRC-Japan Economic Legal Center Opens in Tokyo			C	3
NORTH KOREA				
Celebration of 66th Anniversary of Samil Uprising Pyongyang Report Meeting			D D	1
NODONG SINMUN Commemoration [1 Mar]			D D	5
Paper Denounces Chon's Speech on Samil Uprising [NODONG SINMUN 3 Mar]			D	1 5 9
NKDP President Demands Timetable for Democracy [VRPR]			D	11
Dissidents Discuss Political Suppression in South [VRFR]				11
Kim Receives Solidarity Message From PDRY Leader				12
Kang Song-san Meets Soviet Economic Delegation				13
Kang Song-san Meets Brazilian Company Group				13
SOUTH KOREA				
Chon Tu-hwan To Lift Political Ban on Dissidents [AFP]			E	1
Kim Tae-chung Comments [KYODO]			E	1
CHOSON ILBO Reaction [5 Mar]			E	
NKDP Leaders Repeat Call To Meet No Sin-yong			E	2
[THE KOREA TIMES 5 Mar]			_	-
500 Miners, Families Confronted by Police in Kangwon [TONG-A ILBO 5 Mar]			E	4
Dispute Resolved			E	5
Government To Regulate Imports, Promote Exports			\mathbf{E}	5
Schools Instructed on Student Council Chairmen [THE KOREA HERALD 5 Mar]			E	6
Pan-National Olympic Promotion Group Inaugurated			\mathbf{E}	7
MONGOLIA				
UNEN Hails Founding Anniversary of MPRP [1 Mar]			F	1
Communique Issued on Visit to Mozambique			F	1
Asian Trade Union Conference Results Viewed			F F	2
Presidium Appoints New Ambassador to Vietnam			F	1 2 2 2
Briefs: Ambassador to Hungary			F	2

BURMA

Reportage on PRC President Li Xiannian's Visit	G 1
Accorded Warm Welcome	G 1
U San Yu Hosts Banquet	G 1
Li Calls on U San Yu	G 2
CAMBODIA	
SRV Army Moves Artillery to Vicinity of Ta Tum	н 1
[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 5 Mar]	
Attacks Khmer Base [AFP]	Н 1
Report Says 471, 120 Hectares of Rice Crop Lost	H 2 H 2
Son Sann on Need for Closer CGDK Cooperation	H 2
[Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW 4 Mar]	1 11 2
Discusses CGDK Activities [Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW 4 Mar Sihanouk on Australia's Concern for Cambodia [VOFA]	H 3
Sinanouk on Australia's Concern for Cambodia (VOFA)	n 5
LAOS	
Criticism of Thai Leaders' Relations With PRC	I 1
THAILAND	
INALLAND	
SRV Shells Hit Villages; Residents Evacuated	J 1
5 SRV Soldiers Killed in Cambodian Border Clash	J 1
[BANGKOK POST 5 Mar]	
Prem Warns SRV Against Border Aggression	J 1
[BANGKOK POST 3 Mar]	
Prasong Statement on Cambodian Refugees	J 2
VIETNAM	
U.S. Delegation Arrives for Talks on MIA Issue [AFP]	K 1
'Secrecy' Surrounds Talks [AFP]	K 1
Thai 'Reactionaries' Abet Crimes Against H'mong	K 1 K 1 K 2 K 2
Pham Van Dong Receives Outgoing UK Ambassador	K 2
Le Duc Tho Interviewed on Economic Problems [Paris L'HUMANITE 25 Feb]	K 2
AUSTRALASIA	
AUSTRALIA	
Melbourne Cites Hawke, Palmer on ANZUS Meeting	M 1
Beazley on 'Bilateral Relationship' With U.S.	M 3
Defense Expert Says U.S. Trying To Topple Lange [Wellingto	
NEW ZEALAND	
Lange Article Views New Zealand-U.S. Relations	м 3
[Manila METRO MANILA TIMES 28 Feb]	
Palmer Criticizes U.S. Ambassador's Speech [Melbourne]	M 5
O'Flynn Announces Exercises With Australia	M 6
Dollar Suffers 2 Percent Devaluation After Float [AFP]	M 6

INDONESIA

Wolfowitz Ends Visit, Gives News Conference	N	1
Poniman, Harmoko Attend Meeting in Yugoslavia [cross-reference]	N	1
Radio Comments on Sihanouk's Proposal in Canberra	N	1

MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

MALAYSIA

Rithauddeen, Australia's Hayden Discuss Cambodia	[AFP]	0	1
Mahathir, Hayden Hold Talks		0	1
Musa, Hayden Discuss Drugs		0	2
Rithauddeen Denies Country on U.S. 'Secret List' [NEW STRAITS TIMES 27 Feb]		0	2
Soviet Submarines Pass Straits of Malacca		O	3
Official Warns Antigovernment Pamphleteers		O	3

PHILIPPINES

Labor Minister	Ople Tenders Resignation		P 1
Marcos Letters	to Tolentino, Ople Cited	[AFP]	P 1
Tolentino	on Dismissal [AFP]		P 2
Successor	Not Yet Named [AFP]		Р 3

NAKASONE, SYRIA'S AL-SHAR' DISCUSS MIDEAST PEACE

OWO51135 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 5 KYODO -- Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' criticized a recent pact between the PLO and Jordan Tuesday, arguing it does not provide Palestinians with proper rights. In a 45-minute meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Al-Shar' also contended that the agreement between Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), and Jordan's King Husayn is rejected by an overwhelming majority of Palestinians. 'Arafat and Husayn signed the accord in Amman February 11 in a joint attempt to bring about peace in the Middle East.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official quoted Al-Shar' as telling Nakasone the PLO-Jordan pact does not lead to the provision of proper rights to Palestinians. The prime minister reiterated that Japan backs Security Council Resolution 242 urging the return of occupied territory by Israel in return for peace in the Mideast, according to the ministry official. A Foreign Ministry source said the Japanese Government, while endorsing the U.N. resolution, is not taking a stance on the PLO-Jordan agreement.

Al-Shar' met Nakasone at the premier's residence shortly after his arrival here for his first visit to Japan. The Japanese leader emphasized that Japan and Syria should further strengthen political dialogue. A Foreign Ministry official said Nakasone did not spell out means to achieve the objective.

Nakasone and Al-Shar' agreed on the need to promote economic, technological, cultural and science ties between the two countries, the Japanese ministry official told reporters. The visiting Syrian foreign minister told Nakasone of his country's unspecified peace efforts to de-escalate the Iran-Iraq war, the source said. The Japanese premier stressed theneed for trouble-free shipping in the Persian Gulf and reaffirmed Tokyo's intentions to help bring about a peaceful settlement of the Gulf war, the Japanese official reported.

The Syrian foreign minister will review the Mideast situation in the first round of talks Wednesday evening with his Japanese counterpart Shintaro Abe. Their second round of talks Thursday morning will center on bilateral political and economic relations, the Japanese Foreign Ministry official added.

MITI TO REVIEW AUTO EXPORT POLICY 'CAREFULLY'

OWO50355 Tokyo KYODO in English 0344 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 5 KYODO -- International Trade and Industry Minister Keijiro Murata told Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Tuesday that he will review the Japanese auto export policy carefully before lifting restrictions on shipments to the United States at the end of this month. They discussed U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent decision in favor of letting the Japanese restraints lapse. Nakasone was also briefed on progress in last month's working-level Japan-U.S. steel trade talks in Washington, officials said.

BREAKTHROUGH ON STALLED AVIATION TALKS SOUGHT

OW050643 Tokyo KYODO in English 0612 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 5 KYODO -- Japanese Ambassador to Washington Yoshio Okawara will shortly meet U.S. State Secretary George Shultz to find a breakthrough to stalled Japan-U.S. civil aviation talks, sources close to the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party said Tuesday.

The two nations began the bilateral talks in Tokyo February 25 but the negotiations were suspended Saturday without any agreement. Japan asked for the entry of Nippon Cargo Airlines (NCA) on transpacific routes and abolishment of restrictions on flights on Micronesian routes between Japan and Saipan and Guam. The sources said Japan is ready to send a delegation to Washington if Okawara and Shultz agree on the resumption of talks.

EC DIRECTOR PHAN SAYS TALKS 'DISAPPOINTING'

OW011200 Tokyo KYODO in Enlgish 1030 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 1 KYODO -- The Japanese Government must "answer positively" within one year the requests put forward by the European Community for removal of obstacles to entrance into the Japanese market, European Community Commission's director responsible for relations with Japan, Raymond Phan Van Phi said here Friday. "The hypothetical time frame started last Tuesday, when the first meeting of the Trade Expansion Committee began," he said, "and it is reasonable that at least two other meetings will be held -- at least twice a year -- to check on measures taken by the Japanese side."

At a press conference at the close of the two-and-a-half day discussions, Phan, who led an EC delegation, summed up his impressions of the meeting as "somewhat disappointing," saying that a lot of words were expended to explain problems that were "not new," even though short memoranda had been handed to Japan in advance. "The Japanese bureaucrats always answered stereotypically, 'we're going to do,' throughout the discussions," Phan complained, to point out what he saw as a lack of a sense of urgency on the Japanese side.

If the Japanese government were to take measures presented by the EC side at the meeting, the 10-nation trade bloc could expand exports of its "competitive products" to Japan, he said, estimating the potential increase for medical equipment at 500 million to a few billion dollars per year and for electric appliances at 5 million to 1 billion dollars per year.

Phan said he expects Japan to take drastic actions that would "psychologically" push potential European exporters to challenge the Japanese market. "There is danger in the perception gap between the two sides about the difficulty and closed nature of the market," Phan said, pointing out that moves for restrictions on Japanese goods could grow rapidly if Japan is tardy in opening its markets.

Unofficial Finance Talks Held

OW011408 Tokyo KYODO in English 1259 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 1 KYODO -- Japanese and European Community (EC) financial officials Friday agreed to act jointly to stem the dollar's uninterrupted rise against other major currencies, Finance Ministry officials said. The agreement came at unofficial talks at the Finance Ministry on bilateral financial and monetary issues. At the meeting, EC officials said European governments and companies are hoping to issue European Currency Unit (ECU)-based bonds in Tokyo.

Japanese officials replied they have not studied the matter of ECU bond issues as any bonds to be floated here must be denominated in yen in principle. EC officials also expressed the hope that European banks would not be discriminated against when they start business in Japan. The meeting was held at the EC's request.

FISHERY TALKS WITH USSR TO RESUME 13 MARCH

OW050151 Tokyo KYODO in English 0131 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 5 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union have agreed to resume talks in Moscow March 13 on the proposed conclusion of a fishery cooperation agreement, the Fishery Agency said Tuesday. The talks will be the sixth in a series since last June, when the Soviet Union proposed the pact to replace the 1978 accord that expired at the end of 1984. The primary purpose of the agreement is to assure reasonable use of fishery resources in open seas. The two countries already signed a separate, three-year agreement last December on fishing in each other's 200-mile zone. Both sides have been at odds over Soviet demand for a total ban on salmon fishing in open seas. Japan hopes to conclude the coming Moscow talks in about a week and begin negotiations in April on this year's salmon catch quota for settlement in time for the start of the season in May.

In a related development, Soichiro Yamamoto, governor of Miyagi Prefecture, said Monday he has decided to conditionally accept the central government's decision to designate Shiogama in the prefecture as a port of call for Soviet fishing boats under the separate three-year Japan-Soviet fishery agreement. Among the condition attached are that the period of the designation should be limited to one year and that the central government should bear expenses necessary for maintaining security in the area.

PRC-JAPAN ECONOMIC LEGAL CENTER OPENS IN TOKYO

OW011404 Tokyo KYODO in English 1246 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 1 KYODO -- Japanese corporations, often faced with unclear regulations and contract procedures when investing in China, will now have a place to turn. The new Japan-China economic legal center, to function as a Chinese law research and corporate advisory facility, officially opened its services to the public Friday with an opening party at the Akasaka Prince Hotel in Tokyo.

In an introductory speech, Director and center representative Sanji Harago told corporate representatives, "Japanese investment in China has paralleled the progress in Japan-China relations over the past 10 years and there is now an acute need for legal council, especially at the business-negotiation level."

He pointed out that Chinese laws are not clearly stipulated in written form, Chinese officials are often unsure of the applicability of pre-Cultural Revolution regulations, and rules may differ depending on the region of investment. "Moreover, the Chinese and Japanese systems of law are fundamentally different and with a variety of problems facing Japanese investors in China, a group of Japanese lawyers and experts in Chinese law felt there was a need for research and consultation services," he added. Founding members of the center include Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita, Takamaru Morita, chairman of the Association for Promotion of International Trade, Japan, and Satsuki Eda, lower house member and head of the opposition United Social Democratic Party (Shaminren).

The Tokyo-based legal center will provide its members with information on Chinese economic law, sponsor special lectures and conduct research on related topics. Although the center will not offer troubleshooting services for trade and investment problems, it will act as a clearing house to introduce corporations to specialist lawyers. According to a legal official of Kashiyama and Co., Japan's largest maker of ready-made men's suits with contracts in China, "the need for a legal center of this kind is long overdue."

CELEBRATION OF 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAMIL UPRISING

Pyongyang Report Meeting

SKO21008 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] On the afternoon of 28 February, a report meeting of Pyongyang city was held at the Moranbong theater to mark the 66th anniversary of the 1 March popular uprising. Placed on the platform of the report meeting hall were a portrait of the great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song. Hung at the meeting hall were such slogans as "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" and "Long live the glorious WPK!"

Attending the report meeting were Ho Chong-suk, secretary of the WPK Central Committee and vice chairman of the CPRF; Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party; Hong Ki-mun, vice chairman of the CPRF; Kim Yong-chun, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party; other responsible functionaries of power organs and workers' organizations; and workers of the city. The report meeting began with the chorus of the national anthem. Yom Taechun, chairman of the DFRF Central Committee, made a commemorative report at the meeting.

The reporter said: Today, we observe the 66th anniversary of the 1 March popular uprising, under majestic circumstances in which all workers throughout the country are effecting new revolutionary upsurges at all posts of socialist construction to significantly greet the 40th anniversaries of national liberation and the founding of the party while upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address, the decisions of the 10th plenum of the 6th party Central Committee, and the slogans of the party Central Committee.

He noted: The l March popular uprising, which added a shining chapter to the history of our people's anti-Japanese movement for national liberation, was an all-people anti-Japanese resistance and nationwide patriotic struggle in which all people rose up to bravely fight for national independence and sovereignty and against the Japanese imperialist occupiers.

He pointed out: The Japanese imperialists, who occupied our country in 1910, plundered all of our national assets by establishing the system of a truculent colonial iron rule and by brandishing unlimited power, indiscrimately arrested, imprisoned, and killed patriotic people, and desperately ran amok to turn the whole land into a military strategic base for the invasion of the Asian Continent.

He noted: Our people did not yield under the enemy's fascist and repressive rule, but answered it with resistance. On 1 March 1919, they finally ignited and lifted high the torch of a nationwide anti-Japanese uprising. With the mass anti-Japanese demonstration struggle of patriotic Pyongyang citizens as the first torch, the nationwide 1 March popular uprising began blazing fiercely. The mass anti-Japanese demonstration waged in Pyongyang was led by patriotic youths and students of Pyongyang Sungsil middle school in which Kim Hyong-chik, an invincible revolutionary fighter and outstanding leader of our country's anti-Japanese movement for national liberation, early sowed the seed of revolution and which he consolidated as one of the reliable bases for the anti-Japanese movement for liberation. Also, some 100,000 masses joined in this demonstration. The demonstrating masses, just like lions at bay, bravely fought the Japanese imperialist military and police blocking them, shouting the slogans: "Away with the Japanese and Japanese military!" and "Long live the independence of Korea!" and loudly singing the song of the independence movement.

The flames of resistance swept the whole country in a moment and rapidly spread to the northeastern part of China, the Primorskiy Kray of the Soviet Union, Japan, and other places where Koreans lived. Extremely embarrassed by this, the Japanese imperialists indiscriminately murdered and injured peaceful demonstrators by mobilizing armed military and police, arrested and imprisoned tens of thousands of patriots, and soaked the whole land with the blood of our compatriots and brothers.

Enraged at the bloody suppressive atrocities of the Japanese imperialists, the demonstrating masses replaced a peaceful demonstration struggle with a riot, destroyed and burned the Japanese imperialists' military police offices, county and myon offices, and other ruling organs, and more fiercely fanned the flames of resistance, inflicting a resolute punishment on the aggressors and traitors.

The reporter said: Through the 1 March popular uprising, our people powerfully demonstrated to the world that the Korean nation was not dead, but alive and did not want a life of homeless slaves, and also demonstrated their lofty patriotic spirit and revolutionary mettle to fight to the end for freedom and independence. He continued: The 1 March popular uprising gave courage to the struggle for independence and sovereignty of the peoples of colonized countries, whose sovereignty was lost by imperialist aggressors and who had the status of slaves, and gave great encouragement to their struggle for national liberation.

Noting that the 1 March popular uprising, which failed to attain its goal because the bestial suppression by the Japanese imperialists was harsh and chuche-oriented revolutionary forces were not fully prepared, provided a serious lesson in the history of our people's struggle for national liberation, he went on to say: The uprising, above all, taught the truth that victory cannot be attained in a revolutionary struggle without the leadership of an outstanding leader and correct fighting program, strategy, and tactics and that dependence on foreign forces will never bring national independence and sovereignty.

After the 1 March popular uprising, the patriotic people of all walks of life at home and abroad, including workers, peasants, and intellectuals, also continuously waged many types of struggle against the Japanese imperialists and for national independence. However, they could not escape failure because they did not stage the struggle on the basis of correct strategy and tactics under the leadership of an outstanding leader.

This practical experience and lesson in the anti-Japanese movement for national liberation urgently demanded the emergence of an outstanding leader to lead the anti-Japanese struggle for national liberation to victory in our country. This ardent aspiration of our people could be realized only after the great leader Comrade Kim II-song, the genius of revolution, the sun of the nation, and legendary hero, led the van of the Korean revolution by embarking upon the road of revolution with the destiny of the fatherland and the nation on his shoulders.

The reporter noted: The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song defeated the Japanese imperialists by leading the heroic anti-Japanese armed struggle to victory under the revolutionary banner of the immortal chuche idea, accomplished the historic cause of national liberation so eagerly desired by the 1 March uprisers, and built an independent, self-reliant, and self-defense socialist power in this land by wisely leading our people's revolutionary struggle and contruction cause.

He noted: Today, under the tested leadership of the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, our people are powerfully accelerating the three revolutions -- ideological, technological, and cultural -- while putting to the fore the cause of imbuing the whole society with the chuche idea.

Saying that, even though it has been a long time since the 1 March popular uprising, nationwide national sovereignty has not yet been realized completely and the South Korean people still remain in the status of colonial slaves, the reporter continued: Having occupied South Korea after 15 August in place of the Japanese imperialists, the U.S. imperialists established the system of tyrannical colonial domination from the first moment, have exercised the colonial policy of enslavement, have made everything serve their aggressive goal with the power of political and economic domination and even the prerogative of supreme military command in their hands, and have wantonly infringed upon the South Korean people's sovereignty.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The basis of the U.S. imperialists' colonial policy of enslavement toward South Korea is to reduce South Korea to the status of military base for aggression and its military appendage.

Since the first day of their occupation of South Korea, the U.S. imperialists have sought a criminal purpose for making South Korea their colony and, with it as a stepping stone, for invading the whole of Korea and Asian countries. In accordance with their policy of nuclear war, the danger of the U.S. imperialists' policy of making South Korea a military base has been increased recently. Having already proclaimed the Korean peninsula to be the test ground for the showdown of the 1980's with South Korea as the frontline of the U.S. strategy and frontal defense region, the U.S. imperialists have massed more armed forces of aggression in South Korean and it surrounding areas and have turned the whole of the southern land into the most dangerous nuclear armory serving their policy of nuclear war.

The reporter said: The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are waging the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise against us by mobilizing some 200,000 forces strong and numerous modern weapons of massacre and adding fuel to it with each passing day.

He continued: In terms of its purpose, content, the scale of armed forces mobilized in it, and the length of time, the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise is an unprecedentedly provocative war racket. It is, in essence, a 3-dimensional preliminary war and test nuclear war to attack the northern half of our republic on the ground and sea and in the skies.

He said: Because of these war maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists, a very strained situation, in which a war can break out accidentally and be easily expanded into a world war, is prevailing in our country.

He said: We resolutely denounce the new war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, considering them an untolerable challenge to our people and the world's peace-loving people aspiring for peace and peaceful reunification in Korea.

Saying that, under the support of the U.S. imperialists, the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist clique is resorting all means and methods for its long-term office, hellbent on new war provocation maneuvers, the reporter noted: The puppets perpetrated again an act of usurping power through the unprecedentedly violent and fraudulent election.

The reporter said: The South Korean youths and people saw through the fact that the recent election was merely a deceptive burlesque for the fascist dictator's long-term power and vigorously waged the anti-DJP and antielection struggle. Even after the election, they continued to powerfully wage the struggle against the fascist dictatorship, exposing and denouncing the irregularities of the DJP.

He further said: Along with the people in the northern half of the republic, we extend warm compatriotic support and encouragement to the South Korean workers, peasants, youths, students, democratic figures, and people of all walks of life who are powerfully waging a sacred struggle to realize the independence and democratization of society, rejecting fascist suppression by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys.

The reporter continued: Putting an end to the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule over South Korea, realizing the independence and democratization of society, and achieving the cause of national reunification are a struggle to put the aspirations of the 1 March uprisers into practice and the most urgent national task assigned to the Korean people today.

Referring to the fact that, since the first day of the country's division, the WPK and the DPRK Government, under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, have deeply cherished this lofty national mission, have put forward countless most reasonable proposals to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland, and have made all sincere efforts for their realization, the reporter said: Realizing the country's reunification through dialogue and negotiation is the consistent stand of the WPK and the republic government. Last year, we set forth a proposal for holding tripartite talks among us, the United States, and South Korea in order to provide a precondition for the country's peaceful and independent reunification and have actively struggled for its realization.

In his New Year's address this year, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, noted the future prospects for dialogue, saying that if North-South dialogue proceeds well in conformity with the people's expectations and the spirit of the fatherland's reunification, such dialogue can gradually develop into higher-level talks -- furthermore into high-level political talks between the North and the South as well.

The great leader's policy on developing North-South dialogue in conformity with the people's expectations and the spirit of the fatherland's reunification is a most just and rational policy reflecting the patriotic stand of trying to find a new way to the fatherland's reunification through North-South collaboration and unity. We are making all sincere efforts to realize broad negotiations between the North and the South and achieve collaboration and unity, upholding the great leader's policy of accelerating the fatherland's reunification. But, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have answered our sincere efforts with the provocative "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise against the northern half of the republic.

The speaker said: The prevailing situation in our country today urgently demands that the entire nation concert efforts in checking and frustrating the new war provocation scheme of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets and in achieving the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification at an early date. All Korean people, whether they are in the North, the South, or abroad, should turn out as one in the pan-national struggle to oppose the policy of aggression and war of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and to achieve the cause of the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification, transcending differences in ideologies, systems, political views, and religious beliefs and firmly uniting under the banner of grand national unity.

In compliance with the wishes of the 1 March uprisers, the people of various strata in South Korea should struggle more resolutely to force the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces from South Korea under the anti-U.S. banner for independence, liquidate their colonial rule, oppose the Japanese militarists' scheme for reinvasion, and retrieve the national sovereignty.

In South Korea, the anti-U.S. struggle for independence should be staged in close connection with the antifascist struggle for democratization. By concerting efforts, the people of various strata in South Korea should continue to doggedly stage the struggle jointly with the antiwar, antinuclear, and peace struggle, to remove the military fascist dictatorship, obtain democracy, oppose dictators' scheme for long-term power, establish a genuine democratic regime, and advance the country's independent and peaceful reunification.

In order to reduce the tense situation in Korea and promote peace and peaceful reunification, it is necessary to realize our proposal for tripartite talks at an early date, the proposal foreseeing the replacement of the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and the adoption by the North and the South of a declaration of nonaggression. The United States and the South Korean authorities should immediately stop their reckless military exercise racket and respond to our proposal for tripartite talks at an early date.

He said: The persons in authority in Japan, too, should abandon their wild fancies of joining in the U.S. aggressive policy, reinvading South Korea, and realizing their old dream of the Greater East Asia Coprosperity Sphere, and should no longer commit impure activities, obstructing the peace and peaceful reunification of Korea. If the United States, Japan, and the persons in authority in South Korea should kick up military rackets against us in South Korea and continue to obstruct our country's peace and peaceful reunification despite our repeated warnings, they cannot escape stronger denunciation from all Korean people and the peace-loving peoples of the world.

Today, the people in the northern half of the republic are burdened with the honorable task of reliably defending the socialist fatherland and more vigorously accelerating the revolution and construction in order to cope vigilantly with the new war provocation scheme of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique. All working people should achieve great revolutionary upsurges on all fronts of socialist construction under the tested leadership of the glorious WPK, upholding the great leader's New Year's address of this year, the decisions of the 10th plenary meeting of the 6th party Central Committee, and the slogans of the party Central Committee.

In conclusion, he stressed: The revolutionary cause of our people who are under the tested leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim II-song and the glorious party center is invincible. Let all of us vigorously struggle to smash the enemies' new war provocation scheme, model the whole society on the chuche idea, and achieve the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification, more firmly rallying around the party and the leader.

NODONG SINMUN Commemoration

SK011415 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2126 GMT 28 Feb 85

[NODONG SINMUN 1 March editorial: "Let Us Accelerate the Cause of the Reunification of the Country With the United Patriotic Forces of the North and the South"]

[Text] Today we greet the 66th anniversary of the Samil people's uprising in an environment in which revolution and construction are being carried out in the northern half of the country and in which an anti-U.S. struggle for independence and an antifascist struggle for democratization are being stepped up in South Korea. The Samil people's uprising, in which the entire country range with a surging great anti-Japanese outcry for the independence of the country and the sovereignty of the nation, was a pan-national anti-Japanese resistance that marked a brilliant chapter in the history of the anti-Japanese struggle for national liberation.

The mass uprising of more than 2 million people which took place throughout the country in defiance of the brutal suppression of the Japanese imperialist army and police demonstrated at home and abroad our people's heroic courage in not tolerating the imperialist aggression and their indomitable spirit of struggle, not fearing any sacrifice for freedom and independence.

Through the uprising, our people demonstrated strong patriotism and an indomitable spirit of independence, dealt a heavy blow to the aggressors and their stooges, and shook hard the foundations of the Japanese imperialists' rule. Although the resistance continued for many months and the masses who rose up bravely struggled despite sacrifice, their long-cherished historical desire for national liberation was not realized.

The Samil people's uprising taught the valuable lesson that, in order for the popular masses, the subject of history, to win victory in the revolutionary struggle for independence, they should have the leadership of a revolutionary party whose guiding ideology is the revolutionary ideology of an outstanding leader and should have a scientific struggle strategy and tactics.

The desire of the century of our people for national liberation was realized only because the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song stood at the head of the Korean revolution, indicated the course for the nation to follow by the immortal chuche idea, and led our people along the road of victory.

The great leader Comrade Kim II-song creatively pioneered the road of national liberation based on the historical lesson in the national liberation movement of the previous era, put forward an independent line for the victory of the Korean revolution, and victoriously organized and led the long and arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle with his outstanding strategy and tactics, thereby defeating the brigandish Japanese imperialists and realizing the historical cause of national liberation.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song wisely led revolution and construction to realize the independence of the working popular masses in the northern half of the country after liberation, effected an epochal upturn, and opened a new era of national prosperity and growth.

Because of the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their aggressive policy, the country's land was divided in two, and our people's historical long-cherished desire for the establishment of national sovereignty on a nation-wide scale has not been realized to this day, with the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the fatherland drawing near.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: The U.S. imperialists have literally turned South Korea into a large powder magazine of war and a nuclear war base to hold South Korea as a colonial base in Asia and a bridgehead for aggression against the continent, and massively brought in nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction to realize their aggressive ambition.

Since the middle of the last century, the U.S. imperialists have put tentacles of aggression into our country with a view to conquering Korea and using the Korean peninsula as a gateway to the Asian Continent. Since their occupation of South Korea, they have turned it into a colonial military base and enforced a policy of aggression and war against us.

The U.S. imperialists have already provoked an aggressive war ! Korea with the dream to dominate the whole of Korea. Since the end of the war, they have also attempted to provoke a new aggressive war, remaining in South Korea.

They have made South Korea the largest war powder magazine and nuclear forward base in the Far East by introducing a large quantity of nuclear weapons and military equipment. They are escalating step by step the preparations for a war in Korea.

So far, the U.S. imperialists have reorganized aggressive armed forces in South Korea, Japan, the Pacific region, and the continental United States into a wartime system through several joint military exercises. Since I February, they have staged once again the largest-ever "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise in South Korea.

The joint military exercise, which is being staged with the mobilization of a large group of military personnel numbering approximately 200,000, a battle group of U.S. aircraft carriers armed with nuclear weapons; a huge quantity of modern war means, including missiles; and even the U.S. army special operational unit known as the Green Berets, is virtually a preliminary war and a nuclear test war simed at assuming a posture for a preemptive attack on the northern half of the republic.

The U.S. imperialists are trying to fabricate the U.S.-Japan-South Korea triangular military alliance and even pull the Japanese Self-Defense Armed Forces into an aggressive war against our country. The military exercises which the United States has frequently staged jointly with the Japanese Self-Defense Armed Forces on the assumption of an emergency in the Far East are aimed at completing a joint operational plan against our country.

The Japanese reactionaries are intensifying collusion with the South Korean puppets on the strength of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive policy. They are moving military bases to the western area of Japan, near the Korean peninsula, incorporating the Korean peninsula into their sphere of operations and clamoring about blockading the Korea Strait in an emergency.

In the past, Japan enforced colonial rule, occupying our country for almost half a century. Again today, Japan, reborn as a dangerous aggressive force under the patronage of the U.S. imperialists, is emerging as a conspirator in the U.S. imperialists' aggression toward Korea.

Following the U.S. imperialists' aggressive policy, the South Korean puppets' anticommunist confrontational racket is being further intensified. They are accelerating their engagement in arms buildup and increasing armaments, instigating antagonism against us. They are stepping up suppression of the youths, students, people of various strata, and off-stage political forces who demand the democratization of society and reunification of the country, pursuing long-term power.

Due to the war schemes and anticommunist confrontational racket of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges, which are shedding their disguise, tension has been aggravated in our country and the hard-won North-South dialogue, which gained momentum with our relief measure for the South Korean flood victims last Autumn has stopped.

At the moment, a dangerous situation in which a war might break out at any time is developing in our country and peace is gravely threatened. Our people are increasing vigilance against this and are keenly watching the activities of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

Our people's greatest national task is to secure national independence on a nationwide scale by forcing the withdrawal of the U.S. Forces from South Korea and reunifying the divided fatherland. The ardent wish of the 1 March uprisers was to oppose outside forces and retrieve the lost national independence. We should pass onto future generations an independent and sovereign country in which division is unknown, by reunifying the fatherland.

The aggravation of the present tense situation and the increasing danger of war thanks to the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war, demands urgently that a firm prerequisite to peaceful reunification be provided.

The problem of maintaining and solidifying peace in Korea is an urgent one, awaiting a solution. Only when peace is maintained and solidified can a peaceful means also be found to solve the reunification problem. For the peaceful solution to the Korean problem, it is necessary to replace the unstable Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and adopt a declaration of nonaggression between the North and the South, guaranteeing the non-use of arms against each other.

Our proposal for holding tripartite talks among us, the United States, and South Korea is precisely to realize this demand. Maintaining and consolidating peace in Korea is a pressing issue which should be resolved without delay. Only when peace is maintained and consolidated can any aspect for peaceful resolution of the reunification issue be opened.

In order to achieve a peaceful resolution of the Korean issue, the unstable Korean Armistice Agreement should be replaced with a peace agreement and a declaration of non-aggression guaranteeing the nonuse of force by the North and the South against the other side should be adopted.

Our proposal for holding tripartite talks among us, the United States, and South Korea is precisely to realize this demand. Holding tripartite talks is a most realistic way to prevent the danger of war and to change the situation into one favorable for peace and peaceful reunification.

The present era is an era of independence. The time when one could dominate another country with gunships has passed. The United States can in no way threaten us with nuclear weapons and block our people's struggle for peace and peaceful reunification. The United States, therefore, should renounce its policy of military adventure, aggravating the Korean peninsula situation and increasing the danger of war, and should respond affirmatively to our proposal for tripartite talks advanced for the peaceful resolution of the Korean issue.

Only when a firm guarantee for peace in Korea is provided through tripartite talks can North-South relations be improved and developed and a North-South dialogue to restore the severed national ties be realized successfully.

The South Korean authorities, too, should respond to our proposal with sincerity. National reunification is the supreme national task of our nation. The country's reunification should be achieved in accordance with the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity which were declared to the world through the historic 4 July North-South joint statement.

Our proposal for founding a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK] to reunify the fatherland by establishing a confederal state, leaving the existing systems in the North and the South as they are, is the most just proposal embodying the three principles. All Koreans at home and abroad who desire to end national division and to achieve national reunification should pool their strength to found a DCRK under the banner of great national unity, transcending differences in ideologies and systems. National reunification can be successfully advanced only under circumstances in which democracy is enforced in South Korea and the patriotic zeal of the people of all strata is highly enhanced and demonstrated there.

Various fascist evil laws and repressive in South Korea should be abolished and removed; the freedoms of press, speech, assembly, association, demonstration, ideology, and political activities should be guaranteed there; and all political prisoners who have been illegally arrested and imprisoned should be released.

Peace in Korea and its peaceful reunification cannot be achieved automatically but only by a nationwide struggle against the policy of aggression and war of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges. Unholding the programmatic task indicated by the great leader Comrade Kim II-song in his New Year address of this year, the decision of the 10th plenary meeting of the 6th party Central Committee, and the slogans of the WPK Central Committee issued on the occasion of the 40th anniveraries of national liberation and the founding of the party, the people in the northern half of the republic should deepen as firm as a rock its socialist system and strengthen its might by all means by further accelerating the revolution and construction.

The South Korean people should more vigorously wage the anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle for independence and democracy to withdraw U.S. forces from South Korea and to achieve independence and democracy of the society. The achievement of peace in Korea and its peaceful reunification are an important and sacred work which is closely related to peace of Asia and the world. Therefore, preventing the danger of war and consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula are synonymous with defending peace in Asia and the world.

We firmly believe that the peace-loving people of the world who treasure peace and sovereignty will continue to express powerful solidarity with our people's just struggle to block and frustrate the new war provocation maneuvers in South Korea of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and to expedite the country's peace and its peaceful reunification.

Our people's will to reunify the fatherland and to make it a rich and powerful country is very firm. No one can block our people's struggle to establish national sovereignty and to build a new reunified fatherland. Our people who have been firmly united as one around the party Central Committee headed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song will win victory without fail.

PAPER DENOUNCES CHON'S SPEECH ON SAMIL UPRISING

SKO40342 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2147 GMT 2 Mar 85

[NODONG SINMUN 3 March commentary: "Colonial Stooge's Poor, Sly Remarks"]

[Text] Holding a ceremony to mark the anniversary of the 1 March independence movement in Seoul on 1 March, the puppet Chon Tu-hwan talked randomly. In a speech read by the puppet acting prime minister, he tried to make himself appear as if he were determined to achieve sovereignty, independence, and national prosperity, and to reject flunkeyism while talking randomly about the spirit of the 1 March independence movement. In the speech, he also babbled as if he were interested in dialogue and reunification. There was even a joint memorial service for martyred patriots in Seoul on the same day. Also at this ceremony, the puppets trumpeted an elimination of flunkeyism and the nurturing of independence from outside forces and national self-awakening.

While babbling about sovereignty and independence, the puppets ignored the stark reality that South Korea is under the colonial domination of the U.S. imperialists and said not a word calling for the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggressors from South Korea.

The fact that a quisling like traitor Chon Tu-hwan held a ceremony is itself an intolerable insult to the martyred patriots who fell shedding blood in the struggle of resistance for national sovereignty and independence. It is more criminal for the puppets who are prolonging their lives on the coattails of the outside with half of the national territory entrusted to the hands of the U.S. aggressors to pretend that they oppose outside forces and hope for sovereignty and national independence.

As is widely known to the world, traitor Chon Tu-hwan is an old stooge trained by the U.S. imperialists and a flagrant traitor who had sold out national independence by allowing two aggressive forces, the United States and Japan, to land in South Korea and offering half of the nation's territory to them as a colony, a military base, and a nuclear forward base.

The purpose of the puppet Chon Tu-hwan planned visit to the United States next month is to confirm the current master-servant and subordinate relationship between the United States and South Korea, to offer South Korea to the United States as a permanent colony and military base, and to pave the way for his long-term office under the protection of his master.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is also a group of fascist murderers who wet their hands with blood shed by fellow countrymen. The fascist Chon Tu-hwan clique, which with bayonets thrust into their hands by their masters cruelly murdered the Kwangju citizens who rose demanding democracy and reunification in the first days of its power and submerged Kwangju's streets in a sea of blood, is even now making its suppression of patriotic youths, students, and people who demand independence, democracy, and reunification more wicked with each passing day.

Do the traitors who internally are suppressing their fellow countrymen demanding independence and democracy and externally selling out the people through collusion with outside forces have the courage to babble about the spirit of 1 March independence movement? Do they have the nerve to prattle about independence and national prosperity? The puppet Chon Tu-hwan's prattling as if he were hoping for sovereignty and independence and rejecting outside forces is the greatest form of deception. It is nothing but a fabrication designed to cover up their treacherous acts.

As for the traitor Chon Tu-hwan clique's babbling about dialogue and reunification based on the principle of peace, it is also a stark lie. At a time when North-South talks were scheduled and their development was emerging as a practical demand, the puppet clique staged the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise with the U.S. imperialists. The "Team Spirit-85" military exercise, a nuclear test war aimed at attacking us which has already been staged well over a month, is becoming more full-fledged with each passing day.

In South Korea anticommunist and anti-Republic rackets are being conducted daily as well. Giving utterance to false words that we are strengthening preparations for southward invasion in recent days, the traitorous puppet clique raised its voice calling for strengthened combat readiness. There is no need to repeat that this is a scheme to worsen North-South relations and to lead the situation to confrontation, not to dialogue and reunification.

The dialogue and reunification the puppet clique babbled about is all false and nothing but sophistry designed to shirk responsibility for the rupture of the talks and to justify preparations for a new war. No matter how heatedly it may try to polish its words, which it has no intention of putting into practice, the Chon Tu-hwan clique can never cloak its nature as a colonial stooge and flunkeyist traitor by uttering such words as sovereignty, independence, and reunification.

While the puppets were creating a fuss under the veil of the spirit of the 1 March independence movement, the South Korean people are bravely joining in the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and the antifascist struggle for democratization, calling for the resignation of the puppet Chon Tu-hwan. The people will never be deceived by the puppets' clumsy drama of deception and will make the traitors suffer the punishment which they deserve.

NKDP PRESIDENT DEMANDS TIMETABLE FOR DEMOCRACY

SKO41350 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] In a statement issued at the press conference on 27 February, Yi Min-u, president of the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP], demanded that the government put forth a timetable for achieving democracy, noting this is necessary to overcome the crisis in South Korea.

Stressing that Chon Tu-hwan should decide to prepare to resign after putting forth such a timetable and fully implementing it, he said that the responsibility for various crises created in many domains of society lies with the present government for its violence and immoral acts.

Noting that the government offices and agencies were used as tools for the ruling party's election campaign, an act which has been condemned by opposition leaders in the past, he claimed that the election campaign and the elections were not conducted fairly. He pointed out that the Agency for National Security Planning [ANSP], the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Culture and Information, and the Ministry of Defense should be held responsible for such an act. He also demanded that the authorities immediately release the students, workers and all other political prisoners they imprisoned and that they immediately lift the house arrest imposed on Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam and stop political suppression of them.

Putting forth the 5-point demands, he called for an end to the authorities' (?censor-ship) of publications and abolition and revision of the basic press law. He revealed that the members of the ANSP arrested the senior editor and chief political desk reporter of TONG-A ILBO, editor and deputy chief of political desk of CHOSON ILBO, deputy editor and chief foreign desk reporter of CHUNG-ANG ILBO, and interrogated them. He noted such interrogation is an intimidation against reporters who intended to report the election campaign honestly.

Criticizing the recent cabinet reshuffle, he said that this proved that the government ignored the people's aspirations for democracy, giving as an example the appointment of No Sin-yong, former director of the ANSP, as prime minister and of Yi Won-hong, former director of the Korean Broadcasting Corporation, as minister of culture and information.

DISSIDENTS DISCUSS POLITICAL SUPPRESSION IN SOUTH

SKO40324 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Kim Yong-sam, former president of the New Democratic Party, and Kim Tae-chung, former presidential candidate, gave interviews to YOMIURI SHIMBUN'S Seoul correspondent. In his interview, Mr Kim Yom-sam said:

I made phone calls to Mr Kim Tae-chung after he returned home, but we simple exchanged greetings because the telephone lines are tapped.

I keep in touch with him in other ways. We promised each other that we would not believe the present regime's attempt to sever our relations, however hard it may try. The result of the recent elections was an expression of the people's fervent wish to elect the government and the president directly. It is impossible to realize a peaceful transfer of power under the present Constitution which stipulates an indirect electoral system. When the Constitution is revised to allow the people to directly elect a government, they will consequently recognize it as their own government. When this very thing is realized, it will be possible to say that democracy has been realized. As long as the present situation continues both Chon Tu-hwan and the people will suffer. Many people gathered at places to hear election campaign speeches because they wanted to hear the truth. There is no freedom of the press now. I believe that freedom of the press is the most important freedom.

In his interview, Mr Kim Tae-chung said:

The law which restricts political activities is unreasonable and has existed for the past 5 years. It is high time to abolish this law. My basic position is to cooperate with democratization movement leaders, including Kim Yong-sam. The government and the ruling party said that they would respect the will of the people expressed in the elections. They must conduct dialogue with democratic forces in order to do this. Either tripartite talks between Chon Tu-hwan, Kim Yong-sam, and myself or quadripartite talks between the three of us and Kim Chong-pil would be suitable if the government wishes to have a dialogue.

On the question of his relations with Mr Kim Yong-sam, he said: I will never split with him until the day when the restoration of democracy is realized.

Mr Kim Tae-chung talked about the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP]:

The NKDP is making every effort to realize democratization. I will support this party as long as it makes every effort to realize democratization. The NKDP won more Assembly seats than expected but the number of seats it won failed to approach that of the ruling party. It could be no other way under the present electoral system. There is no freedom of the press, freedom of election campaigning, or local self-government system. Both labor and student movements are prohibited. Under this system, even if Chon Tu-hwan resigns from office, there will inevitably emerge another Chon Tu-hwan.

KIM RECEIVES SOLIDARITY MESSAGE FROM PDRY LEADER

SKO42333 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2322 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 5 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim II-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on February 21 received a message of solidarity from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], denouncing the "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises started by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique. The message says:

Please accept my comradely greetings. With deep concern I received news of the "Team Spirit 85" joint military rehearsal now being staged by the U.S. forces and the South Korean puppet army to increase tensions on the Korean peninsula.

This aggressive joint military rehearsal assumes more dangerous nature as it proceeds from the imperialist ruling quarters' military policy of aggression to render the international situation strained and increase the danger of a global nuclear war by militarizing the space, deploying nuclear missiles in Europe, building military bases and posting naval fleets at approaches to seas, oceans and continents through arms race. We strongly denounce the "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises and once again express firm solidarity of our party and people for the Korean people's resolute struggle against all the imperialist manoeuvres.

We once again extend support to your constructive proposal for holding tripartite talks involving your country, the United States and the South Korean authorities to guarantee the stability and security in the Korean peninsula and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

I take this opportunity of assuring you that the party, government and people of Democratic Yemen having solid militant links with Democratic Korea on the basis of the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed between our two countries will continue to tighten the relations with your country in all domains and strengthen militant solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle to carry out the economic plan, crush all manner of aggressive intrigues for encroaching upon the gains of socialism and achieve the reunification of the country under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Most wholeheartedly wishing you good health and a long life and happiness and friendly Korean people progress and prosperity, I hope that the militant links between our two countries will further develop constantly.

KANG SONG-SAN MEETS SOVIET ECONOMIC DELEGATION

SKO42339 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2329 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 5 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kang Song-san premier of the Administration Council, on March 4 met and had a conversation in a friendly atmosphere with the Soviet Government economic delegation headed by Nikita Tolubeyev, vice-chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. Present on the occasion were Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam and Soviet Ambassador to Korean N. Shubnikov. Premier Kang Song-san arranged a dinner for the delegation.

KANG SONG-SAN MEETS BRAZILIAN COMPANY GROUP

SK042345 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2331 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 5 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, on March 4 met and had a talk in a friendly atmosphere with the delegation of the Cobec commercial company of Brazil headed by its general director Antonio Milao Rodriguez Lima. Present on the occasion were Chon Yong-chin, vice-minister of foreign affairs, and Yi Song-nok, vice-minister of foreign trade. Premier Kang Song-san gave a luncheon for the delegation.

CHON TU-HWAN TO LIFT POLITICAL BAN ON DISSIDENTS

HKO50738 Hong Kong AFP in English 0725 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 5 (AFP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan will tomorrow lift a political ban on top dissidents Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam and 12 other politicians, ruling Democratic Justice Party sources said today. Opposition political sources said the move would be a major political concession and that it stemmed from a strong showing by the nation's new hard-line opposition force in the general election three weeks ago.

The 14 are to be rehabilitated tomorrow, the DJP sources said. They are the last batch still covered by a law banning 567 politicians from taking part in politics until 1988. The others were rehabilitated in the name of "national reconciliation." President Chon banned the 567 in November 1980, soon after he had assumed power, on the grounds that they were responsible for political turmoil resulting from the assassination of President Pak Chong-hui in October 1979.

Mr Kim Tae-chung, kept under house arrest since his return here from two years of exile in the United States four days before the polls, told the press he learned of the planned government move yesterday. The 59-year-old opposition politician said that ruling DJP deputy secretary-general Yi Song-chae visited him at his home yesterday to inform him in "vague" terms that he would be "free shortly."

However, Mr Kim believed he would not be able to engage in political activities unless his civil rights were also restored, since he was still under a 20-year-jail sentence for sedition. He also was not sure if he would be freed from house arrest at the same time as from the political ban. He added that for fellow dissident Mr Kim Yong-sam, the recovery of political freedom could be "meaningful" since he could play a significant role for the New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) which jolted the ruling DJP in the recent polls. The two Kim's, long-term political rivals within the opposition camp, lately collaborated closely in their campaign calling for greater democracy in the country.

Another of the politicians still banned is Kim Chong-pil, chairman of President Pak's Democratic Republican Party. He and the other two Kim's were contenders for the presidency after Mr Pak's death until then-Army-General Chon rose to power under martial law in 1980.

The NKDP formed by political followers of the two top dissidents emerged as the leading parliamentary opposition party by winning 67 seats to the DJP's 148 in the new 276-member National Assembly, while two other "moderate" opposition parties together took 55 seats.

Kim Tae-chung Comments

OW051249 Tokyo KYODO in English 1239 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Seoul, March 5 KYODO -- South Korean dissident leader Kim Tae-chung said Tuesday he will make "continued" [words indistinct] to restore democracy in his country, expressing his readiness for talks with government leaders.

Speaking to KYODO at his Seoul home, Kim said the February 12 National Assembly elections demonstrated the South Korean people's "strong commitment" to democracy. "I will make continued efforts, tenaciously and in a flexible and moderate manner, to restore democracy (in South Korea)," Kim said in the interview.

He called the end of the political ban only a step toward full restoration of democracy, which he said also needs freedom of the press, revision of the election laws and direct popular vote to elect the president. "If possible," Kim added, "I'd like to have talks with (government leaders)."

He also said he is ready to offer his good offices for a possible merger between the New Korea Democratic Party and the Democratic Korea Party, the two strongest opposition forces in parliament.

CHOSON ILBO Reaction

SKO50552 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 5 Mar 85 p 2

[Article by reporter Yi Yong-tok]

Text] It appears that major political issues, including the issue of lifting the political ban, which have been demanded only by the opposition bloc, are rapidly developing from the stage of a secret dispute to the point of settlement. The fact that the Central Executive Committee of the ruling party, the party's official decision-making body, has decided to recommend the lifting of the political ban to the party president signals that the lifting of the political ban is imminent. This event is extraordinary in light of the fact that the party's discussion of the issue of the political ban has been taboo because this issue comes under the unique purview of the person in ruling authority.

The DJP authorities have not clarified the time of the lifting of the political ban, saying that they cannot do that immediately, but will do so at a proper time by crystallizing opinions. DJP spokesman Sin Myong-po said that a meeting of the party Central Executive Committee held on 4 March did not address concrete matters, such as the scope and method of the lifting of the political ban. What is overwhelming, in the observers' analysis of the situation, is that the situation is clear in light of newly appointed DJP Chairman No Tae-u's remark that the sooner the political ban is lifted the better, and that providing conditions for dialogue with figures out of office is desirable.

In particular, many people are interested in the fact that the 4 March meeting was held in haste in accordance with a directive issued by the upper echelon on 3 March. Recalling past practice, we can say that there would not have been any trouble if a meeting of the party Central Executive Committee had been held on the morning of 6 March because a meeting of mediation between the party and the government is scheduled for the afternoon of 6 March. People speculate that the convocation of this meeting ahead of schedule implies nothing but the imminent lifting of the political ban.

However, party member concerned deny this speculation, repeatedly saying that final action concerning the lifting of the political ban depends on the decision of the person in ruling authority. They then said that the meeting was held on 4 March in order to secure the participation of the desirable number of national assemblymen because many will visit their electoral districts to participate in meetings to be held to reorganize local party chapters. Nevertheless, it is certain that there will be a lifting of the political ban in the near future, at the initiative of the party.

The 4 March meeting was held to determine agenda items for a meeting to be held on 6 March between the party and the government. However, we can interprete the DJP authorities' disclosure to reporters of a plan to make a recommendation concerning the lifting of the political ban as a move to stress the leading role of the party.

When we note that the lifting of the political ban on three occasions since the inauguration of the Fifth Republic was effected by the ruling party's mediation of recommendations from opposition parties through meetings with representatives of the three major parties and influential party leaders, after debates between the ruling and opposition parties, we can see that the recent event is indeed exceptional. It is a preemptive measure for the DJP to move toward discussing the issue of lifting the political ban and toward recommending this to the party president at a time when it has not begun an official dialogue with opposition parties, including the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP].

Observers note that this phenomenon should not be regarded simply as an attempt by the DJP to establish its image as the leader of state affairs. Observers say that the ruling bloc's acute realization of the fact that it should establish a certain zone of sympathy for dialogue it will have to conduct with opposition parties one way or another prior to the opening of the National Assembly in April this year compelled the DJP to adopt a positive attitude. This proceeds from the realization that, in adopting an attitude of coexistence with the opposition bloc, including the NKDP, the lifting of the political ban is essential.

When we consider the trend of the people's will, which has been confirmed through the 12 February general election, the issue of lifting the political ban against 14 figures is a problem that should be resolved first, as is the idea that there is no need to confer a favor, but drag the issue out, once one decides to grant it. Moreover, it is the stand of the ruling bloc that it can no longer ignore the attempt of some people to link the president's planned visit to the United States with the lifting of the political ban. People say that the trend within the ruling bloc is not to overlook the disclosure of the controversy over an unpleasant issue of toadyism and independence.

Some people dispute: Can the favor of lifting the political ban be granted without guaranteeing that those concerned will affirmatively recognize and join the Fifth Republic? Accordingly, some observers say that the government will only clarify the principle of lifting the political ban and will take the form of obtaining compensation from the opposition bloc through dialogue between the ruling and opposition blocs. Sources say that the government does not intend to make the issue of the political ban the target of negotiations. Sources also say that things that are destined to be granted will be granted in a clear manner and that a meeting to be held on the evening of 6 March between the party and the government will not adopt this issue as an agenda item.

Those concerned say that they ruling bloc's decision concerning the lifting of the political ban is designed to further consolidate the basic system of the Fifth Republic and that this decision does not imply an overture to an unconditional retreat. They say that this decision should be interpreted as a fight with one's back to the wall. They say that the political ban will be lifted and that those students who once occupied the DJP headquarters will be treated in a magnanimous manner. They then describe this as a decision to establish good relations with the ruling bloc and the people. They say that, by so doing, the ruling bloc intends to create a normal atmosphere and express its opinions in a resolute manner.

NKDP LEADERS REPEAT CALL TO MEET NO SIN-YONG

SK050106 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 5 Mar 85 p 4

[Text] Leaders of the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP] repeatedly called for a meeting with acting Prime Minister No Sin-yong yesterday in order to demand the release of the so-called "conscientious prisoners" and the discontinuation of the alleged oppressions on Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung.

Spokesman Pak Sil said that the office of the premier has rejected the NDP's [New Korea Democratic Party] proposal, saying that the new premier could not afford time to meet with the NDP officials because he was busy receiving briefings from the relevant government branches. Receiving a phone call from an official of the premier's office yesterday morning, spokesman Pak told him that the NDP leaders were very angry over the fact that the proposed meeting has been indefinitely postponed by the premier. "It is recommendable that Chong Chae-chol, minister of state for political affairs, should play the role as a bridge in realizing dialogues between the government and an opposition party," Pak said. The party spokesman told him, "Unless the premier sets the schedule for the meeting, our party leaders are certain to loudly protest the attitude of the premier in an executive council meeting today." However, it was learned that the official showed a negative response to the request. The NDP leaders have awaited the meeting, gathering the materials for reference to be submitted to the premier.

500 MINERS, FAMILIES CONFRONTED BY POLICE IN KANGWON

SK051144 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 5 Mar 85 p 11

[Report from Taebaek by reporters Cho Song-ha and Choe Song-chin]

[Text] Some 300 miners of the Changsong Mining Office of the Korean Coal Corporation and their families numbering some 200 are staging a sit-in for 4 days in demand of direct election of the chairman of the branch of the trade union. Miners of the Changson Mining Office and their families began a sit-in at 0930 on 2 March in the Taebaek Training Institute of the Mining Office calling for direct election of the chairman of the trade union's branch. As of 5 March, some 500 miners and their families are sporadically staging a sit-in in four different places near the Changson gas station, on the hill of the Changsong Hospital in downtown Taebeak, at the roadside of Konghwa-tong and at the corner to Hwangji. Thus, they are confronted with the police in those places. The trade union in this place re-elected Kim Tong-chol (37), the incumbent chairman, in an election held on 2 March attended by 18 members of the electorate group comprising some 28 deputies.

The miners continued a sit-in, handing up placards reading "Government-patronized trade union should resign!" and so forth around the Mining Office. The miners and their families, who returned home on the night of 4 March, gathered again on 5 March and stopped the other miners from going into the mines, blocking their buses, after breaking through the barricade set up by the police around the Training Institute, the site of their sit-in. Because of this, seven pits of the Changsong Mining Office are closed as of 5 March.

Meanwhile, the police took 12 women who were staging a sit-in to the police station on the morning of 5 March and are presently investigating them. The Kangwon Provincial Administration, the police and the Korea Coal Corporation held emergency conferences and are pursuading the women who are staging a sit-in and Chong Yong-hwa, 39, a candidate for the trade union chairman who is supported by the miners staging the sit-in, to return home.

According to the decisions of the meeting, Mr Hong Yong-pyo, director of the Changsong Coal Mining Office, posted on the walls of miners residential houses at Mungok-dong, Taebaek city, notices reading: A. We understand this incident because it was caused by the overheated aspirations of employees to actively take part in labor union activities; B. We have decided not to charge you with responsibility for all acts of disturbing the peace in connection with the election of the chief of the labor union chapter and, therefore, we expect you to make efforts to return to work.

Also, on the night of 4 March, the director went around to speak over loudspeakers. However, the miners and their family members, who are waging a sit-in, are still confronting the police, demanding that the chief of the labor union chapter be elected through the direct electoral system; that the election of the chief of the labor union chapter, which was held illegally and irregularly without the participation of witnesses, be nullified; and that the coal mining office not intervene in the labor union.

When Kim, who had been elected as the chief of the labor union chapter in May 1982, was reelected this time, miners and their families who opposed this election began staging a sit-in. They assert that, since he was elected, Kim has intensified punishment of miners and has turned away the work of defending their rights and interests in collusion with the coal mining office.

The police are guarding the front and back gate of the mining office and the office of the labor union chapter by deploying some 280 riot policemen. However, participants in the sit-in, mostly women, are moving in and out of the mining office, breaking through the police cordons.

On 4 March, the police took 16 persons to the police station and let them return home that night. The miners' family members, who are staging the sit-in, said: "Because our family heads are not in the situation in which their rights and interests can be protected well, we are joining in this sit-in." Meanwhile, Kim Yong-chin, governor of Kangwon Province, and Ho Ung, head of the Kangwon provincial police station, are preparing for an unexpected incident, discussing measures on the spot.

Dispute Resolved

SK051148 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1100 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] According to a KBS reporter from Taepaek city, Kangwon Province, the Changsong Coal Mine Office, where mining work has been suspended for 3 days because of a dispute among coal mine workers in connection with the election of the chief of the trade union branch, is now likely to be normalized, as Kim Tong-chol, who was elected as chief of the trade union branch, has resigned.

Kim Tong-chol, who was elected as chief of the trade union branch of the Changsong Coal Mine Office under the Korea Coal Corporation, and Chong Yong-hwa, candidate of the opposition faction, who failed in an election bid for chief of the trade union branch, met this afternoon at the Taepaek city hall and discussed measures to resolve the incident. At the meeting, Kim Tong-chol officially declared his resignation from the post of trade union chief. As a result of this, the source of the dispute among the mine workers at the Changsong Coal Mine Office has been completely removed.

GOVERNMENT TO REGULATE IMPORTS, PROMOTE EXPORTS

SKO20550 Seoul YONHAP in English 0536 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 2 (YONHAP) -- In a move to improve South Korea's international balance of payments, the government will implement a double-phased step calling for the strict regulation of the nation's import and the vigorous promotion of its export, government sources here said Saturday.

In an economic ministers' meeting held earlier in the day at the Economic Planning Board (EPB), top government economic officials agreed to initiate the first stage of the step by the end of next week, the sources said.

Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Sin Pyong-hyon presided over the meeting, with the ministers of finance, trade and industry, agriculture and fisheries, energy and resources, and science and technology as well as presidential economic secretaries attending. After discussion of the nation's recent, worse-than-expected performance in its international balance of payments, the officials also agreed to implement the step's second stage beginning late in March, the sources said.

The government originally projected the 1985 trade deficit to be less than 300 million dollars and the current account deficit to be 500 million to 700 million dollars. However, the current account deficit amounted to nearly 500 million dollars in January alone, and the trend is not likely to improve for some time, promoting the government action, the sources said.

Included in details of the step's initial stage is an increase this year in the government's financial aid to industries for the purchase of domestically-made machinery, from 310 billion won (369 million U.S. dollars; one dollar is worth about 840 won) to 410 billion won. The government also will try to slash the nation's grain imports by encouraging the use of domestically-produced barley for livestock feed and spirits, while strictly limiting foreign exchange expenditures by students studying abroad and government officials traveling in foreign lands.

In a bid to reduce the nation's oil consumption, highway tolls will be doubled for the weekend use of private passenger cars. Meanwhile, the year's import of anthracite coal will be reduced from the originally projected 2.3 million tons to 2.07 million tons.

In the second phase of the step, the Trade and Industry Ministry will seek measures to help Korean exporters break through trade barriers in importing nations, to check and improve the nation's major export industries and to promote the domestic development of imported machinery. At the same time, the EPB will strengthen foreign exchange conservation standards in the public sector and will encourage public enterprises to cut down their foreign debt. Also, the Science and Technology Ministry will improve its compensation system for the technical development of the domestic precision chemical industry, the sources said.

SCHOOLS INSTRUCTED ON STUDENT COUNCIL CHAIRMEN

SKO50059 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] The Ministry of Education yesterday instructed universities and colleges to allow only those students with at least a B average to run for chairmanship of the student council. The instruction came following reports that Seoul National University and a few other schools are considering lowering the academic requirement from a B to a C.

The student council, to be revived this semester at the nation's institutions of higher learning, will replace the 10-year-old controversial Student Defense Corps. Candidates for the chairmanship are required not only to have a good academic record but to display "good conduct" in classes and extracurricular activities, said the ministry. Students who have ever been disciplined are not eligible to run for the chairmanship.

In guidelines concerning the formulation of council regulations, the ministry also specified the council should not participate in political activities and should refrain from exercising undue influence in school administration. The guidelines required that the council regulations include clauses stipulating that the council receive supervision from school authorities.

PAN-NATIONAL OLYMPIC PROMOTION GROUP INAUGURATED

SKO20255 Seoul YONHAP in English 0252 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 2 (OANA-YONHAP) -- South Korea's Pan-National Olympic Promotion Organization was inaugurated here Saturday in an effort to help the country make perfect preparations for the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Summer Olympics, both scheduled for Seoul.

In acting Prime Minister No Sin-yong's inaugural address at the Sejong Cultural Center, No called on the voluntary cooperation and participation of all Koreans to perfectly prepare, on a non-government level, for the two international events.

No noted that the whole world will concentrate its attention on the Seoul Olympics. He said that Korea could crucially extend its national strength and capability to the world through a success at that time.

About 4,000 people from all walks of life, including politics, economics, culture and society, attended the inauguration and pledged to try hard to stage the 1986 Asiad and the 1988 Olympiad successfully.

Also, at the ceremony, former Prime Minister Nam Tok-u was named to direct the Central Council for the Pan-National Olympic Promotion. Nam concurrently serves as chairman of the Korean Traders Association.

Nam said in a speech before the gathering all Koreans should unite to ensure the successful hosting of the two sports events. He noted that the events are ideal opportunities to demonstrate the true image and life of Korea to the world.

UNEN HAILS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF MPRP

OWO40213 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1706 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, March 2 (MONTSAME) -- The Mongolian national daily UNEN devoted its editorial of 1 March to the 64th anniversary of the foundation of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, which was marked on the same day.

The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party founded 64 years ago by the Mongolian revolutionaries led by D. Suhbaatar has traversed a glorious path of struggle and victory and has become the Marxist-Leninist vanguard of the Mongolian people uniting in its rank foremost representatives of the working class, framing community and working intelligentsia of Mongolia and a tested detachment of the world communist movement.

Guided by the all-triumphant Marxist-Leninist teaching, the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party insured the victory of the 1921 people's revolution, accomplished non-capitalist development of Mongolia, has been and is now in the forefront of the nation-wide struggle for building a new socialist society in Mongolia. In this is the outstanding service of the MPRP, the daily writes. "Having ensured close link of revolutionary theory with social practice and made profound socialist changes in all spheres of economic, political and spiritual life of the country, our party has turned the country within a historically short span of time into a country of real socialism, the paper writes.

The unyielding principle of the MPRP's foreign political course is the unbreakable fraternal friendship with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union -- the most authoritative detachment of the world communist and workers, movement, the constant study on its rich experience, boundless loyalty to Leninist friendship with the great Soviet people and all-round development of friendship and cooperation with the peoples of all fraternal socialist countries.

The 8-thousand strong army of Mongolian communists are intensively preparing for the 19th MPRP Congress paying much attention to the implementation of the decisions of the 18th MPRP Congress and of the consequent MPRP CC plenary meetings, and to the improvement in the working out of style and methods of party organisations at all levels, the national daily notes.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

OW021400 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1725 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, March 1 (MONTSAME) -- A joint communique has been issued in Ulaanbaatar on the official visit of friendship of the party and government delegation of the MPR to Mozambique led by alternate member of the MPRP CC Politbureau, deputy chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers S. Lubsangombo.

While being there S. Lubsangombo was received by Chairman of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] President of the People's Republic of Mozambique [PRM] Samora Moises Machel, during which the head of the Mongolian delegation handed over the message from the party leader and president of the Mongolian People's Republic Jambyn Batmonh to the Mozambican party leader and president.

Talks were held between S. Lubsangombo and Politbureau member of the Central Committee of the Frelimo Party, Secretary of the party Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the PRM A. Chissano., The sides discussed the questions of bilateral relations and exchanged views on international issues.

The both sides emphasized upon the fruitful development and deepening of the relations of fraternal friendship, militant solidarity and close cooperation between the two parties and countries on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. They laid special emphasis on the role of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the Frelimo Party in strengthening friendship and contacts between the two countries and the peoples, and also in the joint struggle against encroachments of imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination.

S. Lubsangombo informed J.A. Chissano of the achievements of the MPRP and the Mongolian people gained in the building of socialism. The Mozambican side noted that the people and the Government of Mozambique set great store by the historic experience of non-capitalist development of the Mongolian People's Republic and consistently supported the struggle of the Mongolian people for building a socialist society.

ASIAN TRADE UNION CONFERENCE RESULTS VIEWED

OWO50107 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1707 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, March 4 (MONTSAME) -- The first all-Asian trade unions conference has been held recently in New Delhi with the delegates from more than 20 countries of Asia including the delegates of Mongolia, taking part. The whole process of the conference, which adopted some 10 documents of political importance on various topical problems of the present situation in Asia, has once again showed the interest interrelationship between the questions of social progress and the safeguarding of peace and security of nations, Secretary of the Central Council of the Mongolian Trade Unions K. Dzardyhan, who led the Mongolian delegation to that conference, said to a MONTSAME correspondent.

The final documents of the conference reflect the historical experience of Mongolia's non-capitalist development, as the only correct way of eliminating exploitation and of social progress, and also the proposal of the Mongolian People's Republic to sign a convention on mutual non-aggression and non-use of force in relations among the states of Asia and the Pacific.

(?Significance of) the New Delhi conference lies in the fact that it set up a liaison committee for promoting the realization of decisions adopted at it. The outcomes of the conference show that there is a good foundation for further development and strengthening of the trade union movement in Asia, the author noted.

PRESIDIUM APPOINTS NEW AMBASSADOR TO VIETNAM

OW182324 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1725 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, February 18 (MONTSAME) -- The Presidium of the MPR Great People's Hural has appointed Gelegiyn Adiyaa ambassador of the MPR to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO HUNGARY -- Ulaanbaatar, 28 Feb (MONTSAME) -- Ambassador of the MPR to the Hungarian People's Republic [HPR] D. Saldan has presented his credentials to Chairman of the Presidium of the HPR P. Losonczi. [Text] [Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1728 GMT 28 Feb 85 OW]

REPORTAGE ON PRC PRESIDENT LI XIANNIAN'S VISIT

Accorded Warm Welcome

BKO41426 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 4 Feb 85

[Excerpts] At the invitation of U San Yu, president and State Council chairman of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, PRC President Li Xiannian, his wife, and a delegation arrived in Rangoon by special plane this afternoon for an official state visit to Burma.

President Li Xiannian, his wife, and delegation were welcomed at Rangoon airport by U Tint Swe, chairman of the reception committee and minister for industry No 1, and his wife; Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Hla Shwe; Burmese Ambassador to the PRC U Hla Shwe and his wife; Mayor of Rangoon U Kyaw Myint; U Aung Thant, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department; PRC Ambassador to Burma Mr Huang Mingda; and staff members of the PRC Embassy.

As the special plane carrying the visiting president, his wife, and delegation touched down at Rangoon airport at 1430, PRC Ambassador Mr Huang Mingda and Director General of the Protocol Department U Aung Thant embarked the plane to welcome the visitors. Later, when the visiting president, his wife, and delegation members left the plane, a 21-gun salute was fired.

The visiting president and his pary were then welcomed by U Tint Swe, chairman of the reception committee, and his wife. The PRC president introduced members of his delegation to U Tint Swe and his wife. Two students, a boy and a girl, then presented bouquets to the visiting president and his wife. Later, two young women from the PRC Embassy also presented bouquets to the visiting president and wife.

The PRC ambassador then introduced staff members of his embassy to the PRC president. Over 300 students and Lanzin youths of Mingaldon Township who were on the airport building waved flags of the two countries and chanted slogans of bilateral friendship to welcome the guests.

The visiting president, wife, and delegation members, in the company of U Tint Swe and his wife, then departed for the state guesthouse by motorcade.

President Li Xiannian and his wife were accompanied by a 39-member delegation, including PRC State Councillor Ji Pengfei, and his wife; Vice Foreign Minister Liu Shuqing; Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Xu Xin; and Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Lu Xuejian, and 27 journalists.

President Li Xiannian made an arrival statement at Rangoon airport.

U San Yu Hosts Banquet

BKO41557 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] A reception to welcome PRC President and Madame Li Xiannian was held in front of the People's Assembly Building on Prome Road, Rangoon, at 1700 today. The reception was attended by U San Yu, president and State Council chairman, and his wife; U Aye Ko, State Council secretary, and his wife; U Sein Lwin, state councillor, and his wife; Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha; U Tin Aung Hein, chairman of the Council of People's Justices; U Myint Maung, chairman of the Council of People's Attorneys, and his wife; U Ohn Tin, chairman of the Council of People's Inspectors, and his wife; Thura U Tun Tin, deputy prime minister and minister for planning and finance, and his wife, General

Thura Kyaw Htin, deputy prime minister and defence minister, and his wife; Foreign Minister U Chit Hlaing; U Tint Swe, chairman of the reception committee and minister of industry No 1, and his wife; U Hla Shwe, Burmese ambassador to the PRC, and his wife; Rangoon Mayor U Kyaw Myint; Mr Constante Ma Cruz, dean of the diplomatic corps in Burma and Philippine ambassador; foreign ambassadors and their wives; Mr Huang Mingda, PRC ambassador to Burma, and his wife; staff members of the PRC Embassy; heads of the diplomatic corps in Rangoon; Lanzin youths; and students.

When President Li Xiannian and his wife arrived at the People's Assembly Building together with U Tint Swe; President U San Yu and his wife welcomed them. President U San Yu then introduced the welcoming party to the visitors. Later, President Li Xiannian reciprocated by introducing members of his delegation to President U San Yu and his wife.

U Aung Thant, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department, then introduced the dean of the diplomatic corps in Burma and ambassadors to the PRC president.

Later, the two presidents took their place on the dais, and the guards of honor saluted them. The state military band then played the national anthems of the PRC and the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma. The two presidents then inspected the guards of honor.

The two presidents and their wives were also greeted by Lanzin youths and students, who chanted: Long live the PRC president and his wife; Long live the president and his wife; and Long live Sino-Burmese friendship. Next, the two presidents again took the salute of the guards of honor before leaving the People's Assembly compound.

Li Calls on U San Yu

BK050705 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Visiting PRC President Li Xiannian called on U San Yu, president and State Council chairman of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, at the Credentials Hall of the People's Assembly Building at 0900 today.

Also present at the meeting together with President U San Yu were State Council Secretary U Aye Ko, State Council member U Sein Lwin, Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha, Deputy Premier and Minister for Planning and Finance Thura U Tun Tin, Deputy Premier and Defense Minister General Thura Kyaw Htin, Foreign Minister U Chit Hlaing, Reception Committee Chairman and Industry No 1 Minister U Tint Swe, Burmese Ambassador to China U Hla Shwe, Director General of the President's Office Colonel Aung Mying Baw, and Director General of the Foreign Ministry U Aung Thant.

Accompanying President Li Xiannian were PRC State Councillor Ji Pengfei, Vice Foreign Minister Liu Shuqing, Deputy Chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Xu Xin, Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Lu Xuejian, Special Assistant (Kong Xizhu), Chinese Ambassador to Burma Huang Mingda, and responsible officials.

SRV ARMY MOVES ARTILLERY TO VICINITY OF TA TUM

BK050353 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Mar 85 p 3

[Excerpt] Several pieces of artillery belonging to the Vietnamese 9th Division have been moved from the central region and the Phnom Malai area towards the Sihanoukist base of Green Hill, opposite the village of Ta Tum, reliable diplomatic sources told the BANGKOK POST. The heavy guns are reinforcing the 302nd Division which has been stationed there for months.

"So far we have seen the arrival of artillery and supplies, but not yet of infantry," the sources said. "But once the heavy equipment is there, it would only take a few days to move in the troops." A source from the National Sihanoukist Army (ANS) said that there has already been some fighting 10 kilometres from the camp. According to an official from the International Red Cross [ICRC], these nationalist soliders were treated for gunshot wounds on Sunday at the ICRC hospital of Kap Choeng.

Attacks Khmer Base

AU051243 Paris AFP in English 1228 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Bangkok, March 5 (AFP) -- The Vietnamese Army today attacked the last remaining guerrilla base in northern Cambodia, and shelled a string of Thai villages in a new phase of its offensive against the Cambodian resistance, sources said.

Cambodian resistance sources said the assault began with a pre-dawn artillery barrage on front-line defenses of the Ta Tum base. Thai officials said that led [as received] hundreds of shells used in the attack landed in Thai territory, along a 40 km (25 mile) stretch of border. But the base, headquarters of guerrillas loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, was intact in late afternoon, with the attack apparently stalled after Vietnamese shells exploded no closer than 700 meters (770 yards) from the command bunker, Sihanoukist sources said.

Ta Tum, 500 km (320 miles) east of here, sits atop a high border escarpment, over-looking Cambodia's flatlands to the south, Thailand's Surin Province is at its back.

Thai provincial officials said that hundreds of Thai villagers had fled after shells fell at regular intervals allng the border between the Ta Tum region and neighboring Sisaket and Buriram Provinces. Thai military sources in the border town of Aranyaprathet said the Vietnamese attack may also have been directed against pro-Chinese Khmer Rouge guerrillas believed to be camped on Cambodian soil in that area.

Sihanoukist sources said the guerrillas moved out of the camp shortly after the first barrage and mounted a counterattack along the flanks of the assailants, killing or wounding an unspecified number of Vietnamese. They did not comment on their own casualties.

The Thai Army's northeastern border force command, in the town of Surin, about 60 km (40 miles) north of Ta Tum, confirmed that the base and surrounding area had been shelled, but refused to give details.

The Sihanouk sources said there were 3,000 to 4,000 guerrillas defending Ta Tum, and another 5,000 scattered in northern Cambodia. Further south along the border, Vietnamese troops early today shelled KPNLF guerrilla positions around Sanro Cha-ngan and Dong Rek areas north of Aranyaprathet, and Khmer Rouge positions in Chanthaburi Province to the south, Thai military sources said.

REPORT SAYS 471,120 HECTARES OF RICE CROP LOST

BKO41107 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1107 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK March 1 -- Kampuchea put ove: 1,300,000 ha. under rice in the last (1984) monsoon season cropping, but 471,120 ha. of them were destroyed by natural calamities, says a report at the sixth recapitulatory meeting of the Ministry of Agriculture. The report said that the loss was partly made up by 100,000 ha. of subsidiary crops. Also last year some 3,200 ha. of waste land were turned into rice field. In this current dry season beginning last October, peasants across the country grew 88,000 ha. of the planned 168,200 ha. of rice, and planted 10,740 ha. of tobacco, 280 ha. of cotton, 2,000 ha. of sugar cane, 2,300 ha. of ground-nut, 500 ha. of sesame and 36,000 ha. of maize.

Regarding animal breeding, the country now has about 1,962,000 head of cattle and 1,014,000 pigs.

In forestry 73,000 cubic metres of timber and 164,000 steres of firewood were cut down, and 164,000 cubic metres of sawed wood and 23,000 tonnes of charcoal turned out.

Some 62,700 tonnes of fish or 87 percent of the plan were caught, including 7,700 tonnes of sea fish, while fishing farms produced 1,600 tonnes. Meanwhile the hydrologic and meteorological service, professional training, researches and other services relating to agriculture also made remarkable progress, adds the report.

SON SANN ON NEED FOR CLOSER CGDK COOPERATION

BKO40109 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 4 Mar 85 p 1

[By Somphong Kittinaradon]

[Text] Khmer coalition Prime Minister Son Sann, stressing the necessity for closer cooperation among the three anti-Vietnamese partners, revealed during the weekend that he will soon calla meeting of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) to "iron out" differences over the establishment of a new mechanism to strengthen political coordination in the coalition. The meeting will be held sometime next month or even before, according to Son Sann, who was talking to THE NATION in an exclusive inerview after he had chaired a meeting of CGDK defence ministers last Friday.

Son Sann, also president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), said that he would chair the first meeting to discuss the details of a new structure to strengthen the tripartite political coordination, agreed upon last month during a special meeting of the three top Khmer resistance leaders -- Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Son Sann and Khieu Samphan.

"But after the first session, I will leave it to them (senior representatives from the three factions) to follow up on the results of the meeting because I have so many things to do," he said. Yet, Son Sann denied the allegation that the three partners — the Sihanoukist movement, the Khmer Rouge and the KPNLF — had not met frequently enough for political consultations. "We, not only have the annual Cabinet meeting when President Prince Norodom Sihanouk makes an annual visit here but also have inner Cabinet meetings. We can meet any time, particularly at the United Nations where we (the three Khmer leaders) meet every year," he said.

The suave and soft-spoken Khmer leader said that at the meeting last Friday at an undisclosed venue, the need to strengthen coordination and cooperation in the battle-fields was acknowledged and it was resolved to hold a military meeting as soon as possible, at least once a month. Referring to complaints by non-communist Khmer officials over alleged attacks by Khmer Rouge guerrillas on non-communist fighters trying to penetrate deeper into the interior of the country, the coalition prime minister said that the leaders of the three partners had promised to instruct their subordinates in the battlefields to avoid clashes with one another.

"I think we all agreed to the need for closer military cooperation and coordination. This is a very crucial period for all the Khmer resistance forces and unless we join hands with one another to fight the Vietnamese, we won't be able to liberate Kampuchea," he said. He also cited the communique of Friday's meeting as saying that views were exchanged on "how to utilize to a maximum the current resources available to the coalition government, especially in the areas of logistics and the sharing of intelligence and other information on the military situation of the enemy."

Other Khmer sources said the meeting agreed that a military unit of a Khmer faction can borrow ammunition from another force from a different faction in case of shortage. Some Khmer forces in the field have actually been practising the pooling of ammunition, but it had been on a small scale.

Discusses CGDK Activities

BKO40237 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 4 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] The Vietnamese will face more difficulties in Kampuchea when Khmer resistance guerrillas step up military activities in the interior during the next two months, a Khmer resistance leader said yesterday.

Son Sann, prime minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) and president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), told THE NATION over the weekend that coalition leaders had agreed to send most of their fighters into the inland areas in the face of the fierce Vietnamese dry-season offensive. He said that by waging guerrilla warfare, the resistance forces would be able to inflict more damage and casualties on the Vietnamese.

"The Vietnamese will not know where we are because we are operating in small units and the Vietnamese will not know when and where we will hit them," he said. He declined to say how many KPNLF fighters had been sent into the interior to implement the strategy. However, he admitted that most of the KPNLF fighters, estimated at about 15,000 were at the border to defend their camps when the Vietnamese mounted intense attacks on KPNLF border strongholds late last year and earlier this year.

Recalling the Vietnamese attack on the former KPNLF stronghold at Ampil. Son Sann said that on Jan 6, he ordered the KPNLF fighters there to inflict maximum casualties on the Vietnamese attackers with minimum losses on their part. "But I told them that we were not going to defend the camp to the death," he said.

Son Sann said that the Vietnamese launched the fiercest dry-season offensive with massive Soviet support for two possible reasons: The Soviet Union wanted the Vietnamese to destroy the resistance forces, and secondly, the Vietnamese wanted to increase their political leverage in any political negotiations.

On the first point, he said that the Vietnamese failed to achieve their aim to destroy the resistance forces, who survived the attacks almost intact and in this sense, Hanoi would be in a difficult position explaining to Moscow the reasons behind the failure. He said that the Vietnamese had tried for six years to destroy the Khmer resistance forces but as of now, the resistance still exists as a threat to the Vietnamese. The resistance forces, he said, were harassing the Vietnamese by cutting off logistic routes and attacking convoys of trucks transporting supplies from the interior to the border areas.

"The current Vietnamese offensive is not a victory for them. They will face more troubles because by concentrating their forces on the border, they have allowed our men to step up attacks on their rear lines and in the interior of the country," he said. Son Sann said that the Vietnamese were also facing increasing difficulties even in Vietnam. "We will try to step up our military activities in the interior in the next two months," he said.

He said that the KPNLF had permanet military presence as deep in the interior as Pursat and Battambang. In Kampong Chhnang, KPNLF guerrillas of different commanders had met, he said. The Khmer Rouge, the main fighting force in the three-party coalition, was now active as far as Prek Kdam, a ferry town on the Tonle Sap River, just about 25-30 kms from Phnom Penh, according to Son Sann. Prek Kdam is in the Kandal Province.

On the second point, the CGDK premier said that it was correct that ASEAN and the coalition stand firm on their call for a political settlement which includes the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and the self-determination of the Khmer people in accordance with UN resolutions, as well as those by the International Conference on Kampuchea (ICK).

"We must not waver in our firm positions in the face of the Vietnamese attempts backed by their military campaigns to start political negotiations on their terms," he said. Son Sann said that he and the other coalition leaders would visit a number of countries to explain the Kampuchean situation. On his part, he only said that he would visit some friendly countries to seek aid for the resistance and some third world countries which are not well informed on the Kampuchean situation. He confirmed that among the countries he would visit are China and some African countries.

The CGDK premier, asked whether he planned to open new joint information offices with the Sihanoukists in the near future, only replied: "No idea". However, he said that he would probably visit the joint information offices to see how people there are working and see what could be done to improve the efficiency of those missions.

The KPNLF and the Sihanoukist movement, known as Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia], are running joint information offices in Canberra, Tokyo, Strasbourg and Brussels in addition to a tripartite UN representation in New York. Asked whether he will see the Chinese president during Li Xiannian's visit here March 11-15, he said that it depends on the Chinese president, but he was willing to see him. "He is a friend of mine, you know. We used to both work in the economic field," he said.

SIHANOUK ON AUSTRALIA'S CONCERN FOR CAMBODIA

BK021013 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Interview with CGDK President Prince Norodom Sihanouk by unidentified Australian newsman in Bangkok; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Newsman] May I ask you what is the purpose of your visit to Australia? What do you hope to achieve?

[Sihanouk] Thank you very much. One, I have always admired Australia, and I appreciate very much the wise policy of Australia vis a vis Cambodia. And traditionally, I had good relations with Australia. And, in the past, when I was head of state in Phnom Penh, when I had difficulties with the United States, Australia was so good as to accept to represent the United States in Phnom Penh and to represent my country, Cambodia, in the States. So, thanks to Australia, we could maintain relations with the United States, with Washington, D.C., and I have among my best friends a few Australian citizens and distinguished gentlemen — for instance, the former ambassador of Australia and dean of the diplomatic corps in Phnom Penh, His Excellency Mr (Noel Bishop). He is retired, but he is waiting for me, and also the former consul general of Cambodia, Kingdom of Cambodia, Mr (Colin Pratt). They want me to go to Australia in order to explain to the Australian people the case of Cambodia. And also my compatriots among them, there are many supporters of mine. So they want me to go to Australia because they want me to represent the Cambodian people there to ask for the help of Australia.

Two, the Australian Government is so good as to let me know, through a few common friends, that it would like to have discussions, with me, not as president of Democratic Kampuchea, but as the former head of state of Cambodia, discussions about and exchange of views about Cambodia, about the Cambodian issue. Because Australia (?is wise)... [changes thought] so, when she is very interested in the situation in Indochina, in Southeast Asia, and maybe in Cambodia, so Australia wants to have contacts with the main, if I may say so, the main actors in the Cambodian drama now in Cambodia — Hanoi on the other hand and Sihanouk. I say Sihanouk and Son Sann because Australia had seen him last year already, so this year Australia would like to see Sihanouk and to have exchange of views with me and to let me know and to have the opportunity to let me, you know, give some explanations about our struggle and so on.

And the ASEAN also, thridly, three, ASEAN wants me to go to Australia. ASEAN advises me to lobby for the Cambodian people and the independent, nonaligned, and neutral Cambodia. So ASEAN and very recently the foreign ministers of ASEAN, they formally asked me to go as quickly as possible to Australia and to New Zealand also. So I am going there with great pleasure in order to pay homage to your great country and to your great people and your government. And I repeat, I appreciate very much what Australia has done for us. I appreciate your interest in the Kampuchean issue. I appreciate your accepting of so many Cambodian refugees. They have now, they are enjoying, a good life in Australia. They feel happy — unhappy about what is happening in Cambodia, but happy to be in Australia with your wonderful protection and all the facilities Australia gives them. So I want to say that to the Australian people and the press, to the mass media and to the government [words indistinct] to meet with your government.

It is my purpose, I know that Australia does not recognize and will not be able to recognize my government, the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, so I am going there as Sihanouk, not as president of Democratic Kampuchea.

But your government is so good as to receive me very openly, and your government will accommodate me and even an Australian plane will transport me from Canberra to Melbourne. So I am very grateful to your government for its friendship and through my humble person it goes naturally to the Cambodian people, whose plight is terrible. And I know that Australia will not forget the Cambodian people, and in the future she will be doing her best in order to help us to find out a peaceful and equitable solution to solve the problem. But Hanoi is playing the biggest role in the problem. You know, in the present situation and as well as the search for a solution is concerned, no body can solve the problem unless Hanoi accept to show some good will and also accept to solve alongside us the problem.

And the situation in Cambodia is this: It is, there is a long, a terrible war, a war between losers and winners. This last weeks and months, it appeared that the Vietnamese are very powerful. Militarily speaking, they are powerful, and they are able to make a spectacular show all along the Thai-Cambodian border by wiping out Son Sann's bases and now they are attacking very violently the Khmer Rouge. But they will not be able to win 100 percent of war, over the national resistance of the Cambodians. One, the nationalists, the nationalists, they... [changes thought] the people inside Cambodia themselves, they want Son Sann, they want Sihanouk as their leaders. They don't want Heng Samrin; they don't want the puppets of Hanoi to be their leaders. And each time we could send a few nationalist soldiers deep inside Cambodia, all the villagers [words indistinct] gave them very warm welcome and let us know, let the nationalist leaders -- Son Sann, Sihanouk -- know that they supported us, they supported us. And so since the people -they are not with the Vietnamese, they are with us -- so means that the Vietnamese cannot subjugate, cannot make Cambodians their servants. And they're afraid, because the people in Cambodia will never accept to be slaves of Hanoi and slaves of the Soviet Union. And the Soviet Union is being behind Hanoi.

And two, [as heard], the Khmer Rouge, because some people tell us why do let the Khmer Rouge, why, you must get rid of the Khmer Rouge. But who can wipe out the Khmer Rouge forces? And now we see that the Vietnamese, they are trying to, if I may say so, doing their best in order to wipe out the Khmer Rouge, but I am sure they might, the Vietnamese might get some success in the process of, you know, destroying Phnom Mali sanctuary and Phum Thmei -- Phum Thmei, the village, I went there few days ago to receive credentials from four ambassadors. So perhaps the Vietnamese, they might, you know, destroy the bases, but they cannot destroy the very strength of the Khmer Rouge because they have also supporters among the Cambodian people. The rural inhabitants -- inhabitants in the rural areas -- and so they have recruits, and their Army is the strongest in the tripartite coalition. They have more than 50,000 soldiers with high patriotic motivation and they are tough in their battle against the Vietnamese. So, in future the Vietnamese may stay in Cambodia, but they will never have peace in Cambodia. They will always be fighting difficulties, like the Americans in Vietnam when the Viet Cong and the north Vietnamese fought the Americans. You know, even to U.S. Congress there were senators or U.S. representatives who wanted the U.S.A. to withdraw its troops from Vietnam because it appeared that the Viet Cong and the north Vietnamese -- they were defending a just cause. They were fighting to free their country. But not it appears that they are intervening in Cambodia, not to save the Cambodian people from the yoke of the Khmer Rouge, but just to colonize and to Vietnamize Cambodia. There are now more 600,000 Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia, about 200,000 Vietnamese soldiers, and the regime of Heng Samrin is very oppressive, and the Vietnamese themselves they are not so mild vis-a-vis the population, the Khmer population, of Cambodia.

CRITICISM OF THAI LEADERS'S RELATIONS WITH PRC

BK190738 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 13 Feb 85

["Talk": "Thai Ultrarightist Reactionaries Are Daily Drifting Deeper Into Beijing's Orbit"]

[Text] Respected listeners: While launching fierce aggression along the Sino-Vietnamese border in the northern part of the SRV, the Beijing reactionaries have spread deceitful propaganda charging Vietnam with plotting to annex Thai territory or encroaching upon Thai sovereignty and so forth. In fact, everyone knows that historically, Vietnam was invaded many times and that it has never annexed any other country. After the end of the war waged against Vietnam by the imperialists, the Vietnamese people have persistently endeavored in healing the wounds of war.

The Beijing reactionaries' scheme to make the incredible appear credible is aimed at continuing to slander Vietnam and creating a grudge between the Thai and Vietnamese peoples. It also serves as a subtle scheme of the Chinese big-nation expansionists and hegemonists to incite the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles to dance in unison with them in the implementation of their big-nation expansionist-hegemonist plot in this region. In doing so, they have paid no heed to opposition by the Thai people of various classes in the country. They have defied and opposed the aspirations of the Thai people who desire to peacefully coexist as good neighbors with neighboring countries. Particularly, they have ignored the sincere proposal advanced by Khlaeo Norapati, secretary general of the Democratic Social Party, in his recent letter to the Thai Government.

The ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles have blindly implemented Beijing's instructions by continuing to shelter and assist the shattered Pol Pot forces and other Cambodian reactionaries who have escaped death by going to Thailand. More serious still, they have even allowed the Beijing reactionaries to use Thai soil as a transit route to transport weapons and other equipment to the shattered Pol Pot forces and their associates. The act of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries is no different from direct participation in Beijing's war against the three Indochinese countries. However, the Beijing big-nation expansionists and hegemonists have not yet been satisfied with the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries' services. They have therefore spread additional deceitful propaganda charging Vietnam with plotting to annex Thailand. There is no surprise at this deception by Beijing. This is because the shattered Pol Pot forces and other Cambodian reactionaries now have no land and are being exterminated.

To save the Pol Pot murderous clique from the present defeat, Beijing has stepped up its aggression against Vietnam in the northern part while spreading deceitful propaganda instructing its lackeys to coordinate in launching attacks in various areas along the Thai-Cambodian border, for example in the Phnom Malai area, in order to save the lives of the shattered Pol Pot forces and other Cambodian reactionaries who are struggling in their last ditch.

By acting upon the instructions of Beijing as mentioned above, the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles have brought no benefits to the Thai nation and people. They will only lead the entire Thai people to engage in war against the three Indochinese nations and will only turn Thailand into a tool serving Chinese big-nation expansionism and hegemonism. By so doing, they are daily drifting ever deeper into Beijing's orbit and will only become one who serves a policy of creating tension and threatening peace and security in this region.

SRV SHELLS HIT VILLAGES; RESIDENTS EVACUATED

BK050555 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] According to a dispatch from the public relations department's correspondent in Sasaket Province, from 0500 [2200 GMT on 4 March] to 0900 [0200 GMT] today, about 200 shells fired by Vietnamese soldiers landed in the vicinity of Huai Chan and Nong Phi village of Tambon Non Sung in Khun Han District. Several houses were damaged. Vietnamese shells are still landing in the areas of the two villages as of the time of this report.

The people living along the border areas of Khun Han District have now been evacuated to safe places. The Sisaket provincial administration has instructed the hospitals in Khukhan, Khun Han, and Muang Districts to prepare blood and medical staff to cope with the situation. Other government agencies were instructed to work in accordance with the original plan.

5 SRV SOLDIERS KILLED IN CAMBODIAN BORDER CLASH

BK050609 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Aranyaprathet -- The Burapha task force caught five Vietnamese soldiers snooping around a military camp about six kilometres inside Thailand at midnight on Monday and are now holding them for interrogation, a field source reported yesterday. The source said a military-police patrol ran into the five unarmed Army privates at the Surasinghanat camp on Suwannason Road linking Aranyaprathet with Bangkok. The Vietnamese soldiers, aged between 21 and 24 years, gave themselves up without resistance and are now being interrogated at the task force headquaters, the source said. The Surasinghanat camp is the base of the 12th Company of the 3rd Royal Guard Battalion. The total number of Vietnamese defectors and those arrested since the beginning of this year now stands at 133.

Military sources said Vietnamese troops yesterday attacked a Thai patrol 500 metres inside Thailand. At least five Vietnamese were killed or wounded and a Thai soldier lost both legs when he stepped on a landmine during the fight which took place about 13 kilometres southwest of Aranyaprathet, the sources said.

In Trat Province, some Vietnamese artillery shells were reported to have landed at Ban Ko Ket in Tambon Chamrak of Muang District at around 10 a.m. The report said that a wedding ceremony taking place in the district at the time was disrupted by the shells which fell nearby. However, no one was hurt and the wedding resumed.

Meanwhile, a radio broadcast by the anti-Vietnamese Democratic Kampuchea resistance forces resumed yesterday morning after two weeks of absence. The broadcast, monitored in Aranyaprathet, said that the DK coalition government yesterday [as published] held a Cabinet meeting inside Kampuchea for the first time since the Vietnamese launched their major offensive last November. The radio said that the meeting was attended by DK President Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Prime Minister Son Sann and other Cabinet ministers.

PREM WARNS SRV AGAINST BORDER AGGRESSION

BK030211 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Buriram -- The government will use political, diplomatic and military means to respond to any Vietnamese act of aggression against Thai border towns, Prime Minister

Prem Tinsulanon said in Ban Kruat District yesterday. The statement came as Vietnamese forces were poised to attack a Sihanoukist stronghold in Ta Tum opposite Thailand's Surin Province.

Military intelligence said the Vietnamese forces there were the same ones which were involved in fighting with Thai troops near O Bok Pass opposite Ban Kruat District last month. Five Thai villagers were killed and three seriously wounded by the Vietnamese cross-border fire on February 16. A Vietnamese shell reportedly fell as far as 14 kilometres inside Thailand.

Gen Prem was accompanied by Permanent Secretary for Interior Phisan Mulasatsathon, Second Army Commander Lt-Gen Phisit Hemabut and other senior officials. Gen Prem was greeted upon arrival by about 3,000 people holding posters expressing support for the prime minister. In his speech, Gen Prem thanked the local townspeople for their unity in protecting the country's sovereignty. He later gave money and foodstuffs to families of victims killed or wounded by Vietnamese shelling.

PRASONG STATEMENT ON CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

BK021137 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Statement by Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, secretary general of the National Security Council, on 1 March; place not given -- recorded]

[Text] The new refugees arriving constitute only Cambodian nationals. There are altogether nearly 250,000 of them. They are staying at the areas designated by the military, the deepest of which is the area near Khao I-dang refugee holding center. I would like to say that these refugees will only be here temporarily. Preparations are being carried out by authorities concerned to send them back into Cambodia. As I am directly involved in the work, I would like to report to you that most of the approximately 200,000 refugees will be able to return to Cambodia in a few months. I do not think that there should be any problem regarding those refugees. The same is true of the 10,000 displaced Thai affected by the current border situation. The military and administration officials are looking after them. Most of these villagers have already moved back to their respective villages with help from our authorities. The international organizations also provided assistance to these Thai villagers in addition to helping Cambodian refugees.

U.S. DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS ON MIA ISSUE

HKO40740 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 4 Mar 85

[By Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Excerpt] Hanoi, March 4 (AFP) -- A U.S. delegation flew in here yesterday with a brief to discuss U.S. servicemen missing in action (MIA's) in the war in Indochina, and "bilateral humanitarian issues." Vietnamese officials said today that Richard Childress, a member of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's National Security Council, and Ann Mills Griffiths, executive director of the National League of Families, arrived here yesterday for a visit at their own request. The officials gave no details of their agenda, but the U.S. State Department announced late last week that Mr. Childress and Mrs. Griffiths would raise the MIA question as well as "other bilateral humanitarian issues."

The State Department said the three-day mission would also raise with Hanoi the issue of resettlement in the United States of Vietnamese held in the country's reeducation camps, for alleged links during the war with the United States for the pro-Washington South Vietnam government. The problem of the MIA's, 10 years after the war ended, is still sensitive in the United States where groups such as Mrs. Griffiths' are very active. Vietnam has so far returned the remains of 96 MIA's and insisted that no more U.S. servicemen remain in this country. Some U.S. groups are not so sure. The issue is seen as a major stumbling block to normalization of relations between the two countries, which do not have diplomatic ties.

'Secrecy' Surrounds Talks

HK050928 Hong Kong AFP in English 0904 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Hanoi, March 5 (AFP) -- Secrecy surrounded talks here today between a U.S. delegation and Vietnamese officials on U.S. servicemen missing in action (MIA's) from the Vietnam war. No information was available from the meetings between Vietnamese authorities and two Americans -- Richard Childress, a member of President Ronald Reagan's National Security Council, and Ann Mills Griffiths, executive director of the National League of Families, a private group comprising mainly parents of the MIA's. The two arrived Sunday for a three-day visit to Vietnam.

The U.S. State Department had said that their mission was to cover the MIA's, which is a sensitive issue in the United States, and "other bilateral humanitarian issues." An official Vietnamese source confirmed the Americans, arrival, which was not covered in the media here, but gave no details of their agenda or the Vietnamese officials involved. Mr. Childress, contacted by telephone here yesterday, also gave no details.

THAI 'REACTIONARIES' ABET CRIMES AGAINST H'MONG

OWO21638 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 2 -- Public opinion in Laos has over the past two years voiced strong indignation at a new crime committed by Thai ultra-rightist reactionaries against more than 500 members of the H'mong ethnic group in Xiengkhoang Province.

A group of five Lao reactionary exiles, on orders from the Bangkok ultra-rightists, on Feb. 22 secretly crossed the Mekong River into Laos' areas of Pha Lai and Thathom, in the two districts of Muong Khoun and Keo Viengsay of Xiengkhoang Province where many H'mong people are living. The reactionaries distorted the Lao party and state's policies, and tried to stir up division among the various ethnic groups of Laos.

They forced more than 500 people there to go to Thailand. Arrived at the Mekong River, they robbed those people of nearly 50 ingots of silver, more than 600 silver coins and other property. Twenty-one among these people got drowned when crossing the river. On Thai soil, the reactionaries bluntly told these people that Thailand doesn't accept them and forced them to return to Laos. Once again the reactionaries plundered their property.

The H'mong people fled and hid in neighbouring forests. Three days later, the reactionaries gathered them and put them into boats and forced them to sail back to Hang Sinh Isle in Paksan District of Laos. The local administration and people used boats to bring them back to the Lao hamlets of Soun Savan and Cuoi, and the kilometre 13 area on the Lao side of the Mekong River.

Before many Lao journalists and the local administration, the H'mong strongly denounced the ultra-rightist reactionaries' wrongdoings. They are being helped to return to their native places.

PHAM VAN DONG RECEIVES OUTGOING UK AMBASSADOR

OW021618 Hanoi VNA in English 1509 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 2 -- Michael E. Pike, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, today paid a farewell visit to chairman of the Council of Ministers before leaving here for another assignment at home. Chairman Pham Van Dong had a cordial talk with the British ambassador.

LE DUC THO INTERVIEWED ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PM281101 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 25 Feb 85 p 8

[Interview with CPV Politburo member Le Duc Tho by Daniel Roussel in Paris; date not given -- first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Le Duc Tho granted an interview to L'HUMANITE during his visit to France at the head of the Vietnamese delegation to the 25th PCF Congress.

What are the causes of the economic problems which Vietnam is experiencing? How can they be overcome? Le Duc Tho explained to us at length the terrible effects of the war, the burden of underdevelopment, military pressures on the border, the Cambodian problem, and the natural disasters which destroyed nearly 700,000 metric tons of food in 1984 alone.

"Our economy is hemmed in," Le Duc Tho stressed. "We have no economic relations of any importance with the capitalist countries, including France, although France promised us limited credit of Fr200 million."

"Without the war we could solve our problems more easily." Furthermore, Le Duc Tho said, "our comrades all emerged from the bush schools to immediately run the national economy upon our liberation in 1975. We lack know-how and experience. It is easy to understand that we were unable to avoid faltering steps in the initial stage of building socialism."

In recent years the authorities in the country have been able to "learn from experience" with a view to improving the way in which the economy is run. The objectives of development are based primarily "on satisfying the population's essential needs." What about the future? "The future lies in the agricultural industry." And on this basis, Le Duc Tho said, "we are going to reorganize and reshape our economy and look at sectors which need boosting; the construction of some production bases will be postponed, in other cases it will be temporarily halted. We are going to channel our investments into tasks which will ensure the attainment of our objective of satisfying the population's essential needs."

Hence the "priority" given to the effort to develop agriculture -- "a central task," Le Duc Tho explained, in ensuring that the country quickly achieves self-sufficiency in food. The development of heavy and light industry will come second to agricultural development. Finally, one of the other national priorities is the "export effort" which should help investment in domestic production.

Learning from the past, and especially making a careful analysis of the market process in society for building socialism "gradually," Le Duc Tho "admitted" that for "some time capitalist economic forms" may coexist within a society in which socialist production relations are predominant. In addition the eradication of the merchant bourgeoisie and private commerce "will take a long time," Le Duc Tho said. "We have adopted a different method of work to gradually control the private market and to subsequently be in a position to halt inflation and reduce it. This is what we are now doing. In the rural districts we will have to continue to use the 'khoan,' the inclusive contracts based on a new method of organizing work in the cooperatives and remuneration calculated on the work done by each producer."

"With regard to management we must grant greater powers to lower echelons while at the same time ensuring centralization at the state level. At our next Central Committee session we are going to take stock of all these experiences. Last, we are appealing for foreign investments, including from Vietnamese nationals abroad. Of course," Le Duc Tho explained, "this task is just beginning; there is an economic embargo and also some mistrust."

With regard to the issue of the struggle "between the two paths, capitalist and socialist," Le Duc Tho pointed to the contradiction between the negative and positive aspects of the new experiences under way. "We must be bold. We will continue to discuss all of these problems in the period ahead, learn all the lessons, and realize that there can be negative phenomena in an economy in which different relations and modes of production exist. To combat this state of affairs we need a solid, steadfast, and healthy party. Proper implementation of our policy implies combating conservatism and the bureaucratism that hampers the proper execution of adopted measures and on the other hand combating liberalism and voluntarism to permit proper management of the economy. We must find a path and advance step by step, neither rushing ahead nor lagging behind and remaining set in conservatism. Along this progressive path we can industrialize the country. We are at present in the preparatory stage."

Having spoken at length about China and the tension in the region, Le Duc Tho described as "unclear" the policy of the United States, which "sees a greater advantage in maintaining normal relations with Beijing rather than with Hanoi. "But" he added, "if the Americans really want to normalize relations with Vietnam, we are ready for it."

AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE CITES HAWKE, PALMER ON ANZUS MEETING

BKO41254 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1110 GMT 4 Mar 85

[From the "Australian Insight" program moderated by Margaret Jollow]

[Text] The crisis over the ANZUS treaty linking Australia, New Zealand, and the United States has deepened with the announcement that the ANZUS Council meeting due to be held in Australia in July has been postponed indefinitely. The announcement was made by the Australian prime minister, Mr Hawke, who said the decision was necessary because of the serious difficulties between the United States and New Zealand over the nuclear ships issue.

The crisis resulted from New Zealand's strong antinuclear policy which led the Lange government to refuse port facilities to an American warship unless Washington guaranteed that the vessel was not carrying nuclear weapons. It is American policy to neither confirm nor deny whether its warships are nuclear-armed. Michael Dodd reports from Canberra that Mr Hawke is now admitting that important parts of the ANZUS treaty are inoperative.

[Begin recording] [Dodd] At first glance it might appear that the decision to call off a summit meeting which could, theoretically at least, help solve the ANZUS dispute is a departure from Mr Hawke's concensus philosophy, but it became clear at the prime minister's press conference a short time ago that the effective decision to call off the Council meeting was taken by the United States, and that neither Australia nor New Zealand had any say in it. Mr Hawke said it had become clear that the holding of the Council meeting at the present time would be impracticable and gave an example of how it would be difficult to have discussions given that intelligence exchanges between the United States and New Zealand had been curtailed. However, Mr Hawke stressed that despite this, the ANZUS treaty remains, and said it needs to be emphasized that this point is not in dispute between any of the ANZUS partners. But at the same time, Mr Hawke said that parts of the treaty were not operative, and it was on this curious situation which Mr Hawke received a tirade of questions as he tried to clarify the new status of the ANZUS treaty.

[Hawke] I am saying it exists but it is not operative in respect of the significant elements of it which have previously been operating. Without being exhaustive, the trilateral exercises are not operating, there has been a decision to cease the exchange of intelligence. These important aspects are simply not operative now.

[Unidentified reporter] Sir, in your opinion, is there any significant element of ANZUS -- the ANZUS treaty -- which is operative at the moment?

[Hawke] I think you would have to say that insofar as ANZUS was a trilateral relationship [pauses for thought] that no, there is virtually nothing of it which is operative now. And I say in operative terms, having emphasized the treaty itself remains there.

[Unidentified reporter] Prime Minister, given that important sections of the treaty are now not operative, is Australia less secure than we were before?

[Hawke] No, we are certainly not less secure. As far as the United States is concerned, their relationship, the rights and obligations which apply between our two countries remain operative. There has been no diminution in that at all.

[Dodd] Mr Hawke received numerous questions over just how operative ANZUS was at the moment, but one answer at the very end of the press conference was more revealing than most. The question to Mr Hawke was whether ANZUS, as a tripartite agreement, remained a treaty in name only.

[Hawke] Well, I believe that that is not an unfair description because if in fact a treaty which is a trilateral treaty and under which certain operations have been going on — if those operations are no longer going on, then I guess in some sense that is not an unfair description. But I do want to emphasize, consistent with what I have said about not intruding into the affairs of New Zealand or the United States, in our discussions that we have with the United States and with New Zealand, it may emerge that there are certain things that still went on that went on before, which may still go on. But it is impossible at this point to be definite about that. [end recording]

Australia's prime minister, Mr Hawke, at his press conference in Canberra and our reporter was Michael Dodd.

Paul Murphy asked New Zealand's acting prime minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer, for his reaction to the postponement of the ANZUS Council.

[Begin recording] [Palmer] Well, obviously, the New Zealand Government regrets that the ANZUS Council meeting has been postponed. We regret it because we felt that that meeting would be a good opportunity to sit down with our allies and discuss the differences that have arisen lately in relation to the treaty. But of course, in the circumstances I suppose it could be said that a postponement does make some sense because it will allow time for the dust to settle, and that is important. We have got plenty of other places and plenty of other forums where we can discuss with both Australia and the United States the differences that exist between us in relation to New Zealand's antinuclear policy. You can be quite confident that the 'ew Zealand Government is not going to change that policy. We are not going to have nuclear weapons in New Zealand.

[Murphy] Was the announcement of the postponement a complete surprise to you and your government?

[Palmer] We are informed -- our ambassador was informed -- by Mr Hawke before the announcement was made so it was not a complete surprise, no.

[Murphy] He said that ANZUS could be said to be no longer operative. Does the New Zealand Government agree?

[Palmer] Well, I think it is true that certain defense exercises that have been planned are not going to be held. I also think it is true that certain intelligence which is shared is not any longer going to be shared. And to that extent there are certain provisions in it which are not operating, but the legal obligations exist and the legal obligations are quite important.

[Murphy] It is a treaty in name only?

[Palmer] Well, I do not agree with that because I do not think many of the relationships which take place between the three parties are based on the treaty at all. The treaty is a very loose document indeed, the primary obligation of which is that each party recognizes that an armed attack in the Pacific area on any of the parties would be dangerous to its own peace and safety, and declares that it would act to meet the common danger in accordance with its constitutional processes. That is the primary obligation of the ANZUS treaty and that obligation remains. [end recording]

New Zealand's acting prime minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer, talking to Paul Murphy.

BEAZLEY ON 'BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP' WITH U.S.

BK050852 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Australia's minister for defense, Mr Beazley, says the breakdown of the ANZUS treaty will not put pressure on Australia to contribute more to military exercises with the United States. Mr Beazley and the foreign affiars minister, Mr Hayden, will present a submission to cabinet within the next fortnight outlining Australia's options in the wake of the breakdown of ANZUS, which links the country with the United States and New Zealand. Mr Beazley, speaking in Melbourne, said Australia would now cencentrate on maintaining its bilateral relationship with the United States and its extensive ties with New Zealand. He did not think Australia would push for a bilateral treaty with the United States, saying that steps already taken to consolidate the relationship were timely and sufficient.

DEFENSE EXPERT SAYS U.S. TRYING TO TOPPLE LANGE

HK050058 Wellington Overseas Service in English 0000 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Leading Australian defense expert Andrew Mack says it is obvious the United States is cutting up rough over the ANZUS row in a bid to undermine support for the Lange government. Dr Mack, who was speaking [words indistinct] in Canberra, said the postponement of the ANZUS Council meeting set down for July is just the latest threat in a plan to topple the Lange government. He said the Reagan administration must have taken heart from last month's Dominion McNair survey in which only 32 percent of the people said that fully support the government's antinulcear ban if it meant the end of ANZUS. Dr Mack said the Americans think that if they continue to push hard on the issue, they might effectively get rid of Mr Lange at the next election.

NEW ZEALAND

LANGE ARTICLE VIEWS NEW ZEALAND-U.S. RELATIONS

HK011534 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 28 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by Prime Minister David Lange: "New Zealand and the U.S."]

[Text] There are some officials in the U.S. Administration who have the wrong idea about New Zealand and are doing their best to see that the American people get the wrong idea about New Zealand. New Zealand disagrees with some of the policy points of the Reagan administration. Because of that, people in the United States are being told that New Zealand isn't a good ally and isn't a good friend to the United States.

New Zealand and the United states are countries which have a lot in common. We are both democracies. We are both free. We both think that those values are worth defending. We don't like being pushed around. There are also great differences between the U.S. and New Zealand. New Zealand is a small country a long way from anywhere. We don't have enemies. We aren't threatened. Because nobody is pointing nuclear weapons at us, we don't see the logic of asking the U.S. to defend us with nuclear weapons.

The bottom line for New Zealand is simple. If New Zealand was ever under threat of attack, we would not ask the U.S. to defend us by threatening to use U.S. nuclear forces against the attacker. We will never ask any ally to defend us by annihilating the planet.

We don't like nuclear weapons in New Zealand, For that reason, we asked the Reagan administration not to send nuclear weapons to New Zealand. Unfortunately, American policy refusing to confirm or deny the presence of nuclear weapons on U.S. vessels meant that the administration could not comply with our request without signalling to the Soviets that ships visiting New Zealand ports were not nuclear-armed. We understand that decision and respect it.

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We in New Zealand are sorry that the U.S. Administration sees this course of events as undermining the alliance between New Zealand and the United States. The fact that New Zealand does not buy into the nuclear poker game does not mean that we are not willing to assist U.S. interests in every other way.

U.S. interests are our interests and historically New Zealand has done what it can to uphold democracy. New Zealand is a country which declared war on Hitler in 1939, not because Nazi Germany was threatening us but because we detested everything Hitler stood for. We declared war on Japan after Pearl Harbour without waiting for the U.S. to ask us. We went to war in Korea because we believed in the principles of the United Nations which the U.S. was upholding. We went to war in Vietnam because the U.S. Government asked us to go.

New Zealand is still ready to play its part in the conventional military operations of the ANZUS treaty. We want to see ANZUS keep its place as the foundation of the security of the South Pacific region. New Zealand is in ANZUS because we get a lot out of it, U.S. involvement in the South Pacific keeps the region secure. The U.S. is generous with intelligence information and in letting New Zealand forces train alongside American forces. In return, New Zealand keeps an eye on U.S. and Western interests in the Pacific. We can attend to the kind of detail the U.S. doesn't usually have time for. There is no free loading in ANZUS. We respect the U.S. for the help it gives us. In return we hope the people of the U.S. understand that New Zealand is looking out for American interests.

The ANZUS treaty is a reflection of the fundamental interests that New Zealand, the United States and Australia have in common in the Pacific. The relationships we have go back to the 18th century. The treaty exists because of the historical, political, cultural, security and personal links, not the other way around. Under the treaty, we have developed a wide range of defence exchanges. We cooperate on equipment, supply, logistics. Mutual assistance under the treaty has enhanced the role New Zealand can play in its other relationships in the South Pacific. We have military assistance programmes with several South Pacific island nations. We cooperate and assist in training, surveillance and monitoring, and deploy our Armed Forces to help with hurricane relief work. In South-East Asia we maintain a New Zealand battalion in Singapore. We are also active partners in the 1972 Five Power Defence Agreement which links Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. We also have military assistance programmes with several South-East Asian countries which for very good reasons do not wish to be seen to be linked in this way to a super power.

All of these activities suit both New Zealand and U.S. interests.

New Zealand has consciously chosen over the years to concentrate its defence effort in South-East Asia and more particularly the South Pacific. This is the area we know best. Our efforts have contributed to peace and security in our part of the world. We have helped build economic and social development as well as maintain defence programmes. This is a contribution of some significance to Western interests generally.

So the people who want to tell you that New Zealand is heading down an isolationist or neutralist path by asking the U.S. to keep nuclear weapons out of New Zealand have got it all wrong.

What we have is a disagreement with the Reagan administration about the deployment of nuclear weapons, and that goes back to my point: New Zealand isn't asking the U.S. to carry the burden of defending an allied country with nuclear weapons.

New Zealand has never been part of a nuclear strategy. The ANZUS exercises our military forces take part in -- and there are very many annually, air, land and sea -- are conventional. With Australia and the other member nations of the South Pacific Forum, New Zealand is preparing a treaty for a South Pacific nuclear free zone. Once in place, the zone will help keep the South Pacific free, as it is now, of strategic confrontation. If we don't act now, we may lose this chance and that would be a calamity for the Pacific and maybe the world as a whole.

This is a very great contribution to security in the region and to global peace. It is also developed in a way which is in full conformity with the ANZUS treaty and with the spirit of that treaty notably where it talks of "strengthening the fabric of peace" in the Pacific. This effort takes its place alongside the Latin American nuclear free zone (the Treaty of Tlatelolco) -- which the United States supports and the other great nuclear free area of the world, the Antarctic.

New Zealanders don't intend to tell other countries what's right for them. Strategic circumstances vary. What we have to do now for the sake of common U.S. and New Zealand interests in the South Pacific is to work out the differences which have shown up between us. I believe we can do that.

ANZUS has endured because it is a dynamic partnership which has showed itself capable of responding to the changing situation in the region. The potential threat or threats are different today from the circumstances in which the ANZUS treaty was negotiated and signed over 33 years ago. Countries that were one time enemies or in adversary positions towards one another are today friends cooperating in an explosion of economic and social development around the Pacific basin.

The Soviet Union on the other hand has engaged in a build-up of its naval strength in the North Pacific and is trying to project that power further afield. Its feelers and overtures to the countries of the South Pacific take nobody in. They have got exactly nowhere.

This is because democratic values and our self-respect as nations are strong and solid.

Let no one forget the fundamental fact: Americans and New Zealanders are the same sort of people. There are countless and strong personal links forged in peace and in war that attest to this. We believe in the same fundamental freedoms: the liberty of the individual, the right of the people to take part in the running of government and of its institutions, freedom of conscience, the right to be free of discrimination on whatever ground, and standards of economic and social decency and dignity for every one of our people.

Thos who would persist in trying to generate an air of crisis over the relationship between New Zealand and the United States and over the ANZUS relationship should take heed that they may be lending encouragement to exactly the kind of insecurity that they most fear.

PALMER CRIRICIZES U.S. AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH

BK051122 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] New Zealand's acting prime minister, Mr Palmer, has strongly criticized the American ambassador to New Zealand for what he called the false and misleading interpretation of New Zealand's antinuclear policy.

Mr Palmer was commenting on a speech by the ambassador, Mr Brown, in which he said that New Zealand's refusal to allow port visits by nuclear warships meant it was not willing to share the full burden of defense with its allies. The acting prime minister said New Zealand remained willing, as it always has been, to contribute to the stability of its region by playing a major role in conventional defense within the ANZUS defense alliance with Australia and the United States. He described the American response to the ban on nuclear warships as a heavy-handed overreaction.

In his speech, Mr Brown said it appeared that New Zealand had walked away from the system of defense cooperation that had been developed over many years under the ANZUS treaty.

O'FLYNN ANNOUNCES EXERCISES WITH AUSTRALIA

HK050120 Wellington Overseas Service in English 0000 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Defense Minister Frank O'Flynn has announced that New Zealand is to take part in exercise "Platypus-85" in Australia later this month. Forty soldiers from the Napier-based 7th Battalion will take part in the Australian [words indistinct] exercise, which includes Australian, Malaysian, Singaporean, and British soldiers. The aim is to develop the capability of the participants to operate together in a land environment. Mr. O'Flynn said the exercise is a timely reminder that a considerable strength of the New Zealand Armed Forces will exercise in [words indistinct]. Mr O'Flynn also said New Zealand Armed Forces will join the Australians in later March in the bilateral exercise "Tasman Link."

DOLLAR SUFFERS 2 PERCENT DEVALUATION AFTER FLOAT

HK040900 Hong Kong AFP in English 0800 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Wellington, March 4 (AFP) -- The New Zealand dollar suffered an effective devaluation of some two percent in international trading today, its first full day of trading under a government decision to float its value. It dropped nearly two full cents against the U.S. dollar to a low of 42.2 U.S. cents, before rallying late in the day.

Dealers were quoting it as 43.3 U.S. cents when the local market closed. It also was quoted at 61 cents Australian and 39.7 pence sterling.

Overnight action on the London and New York markets was awaited with major interest by New Zealand dealers, reserve bank officials and politicians. This was the first time that the New Zealand dollar has been floated.

Until now it has been pegged to a weighted basket of foreign currencies, including the Australian and U.S. dollars, the Japanese yen, and the British pound.

The New Zealand dollar was devalued 20 percent last July, three days after the Labor government was elected to office in the midst of a foreign exchange crisis.

It had slipped a further 12 percent against the U.S. dollar before today's float.

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WOLFOWITZ ENDS VISIT, GIVES NEWS CONFERENCE

BKO41251 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Paul Wolfowitz says the Indonesian Government has successfully developed the East Timor economy, resulting in increasing international support for Indonesia on the East Timor issue. He said this at a news conference in Jakarta this evening before ending his several-day visit to Indonesia. On U.S. textile imports from Indonesia, the U.S. assistant secretary of state hopes that a new agreement can be reached by both countries within the next 3 months.

PONIMAN, HARMOKO ATTEND MEETING IN YUGOSLAVIA

For media coverage of the visit to Yugoslavia by Information Minister Harmoko and Defense Minister Poniman, including their meetings with Yugoslav officials and Minister Harmoko's participation in the meeting of the Coordinating Committee of the News Agencies Pool of Nonaligned Countries, see the Yugoslavia section of the 4 March Eastern Europe DATLY REPORT and subsequent issues.

RADIO COMMENTS ON SIHANOUK'S PROPOSAL IN CANBERRA

BK021331 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Prince Sihanouk's proposal, disclosed by Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden to newsmen in Canberra yesterday following his meeting with the CGDK president, is not a new idea. Prince Sihanouk raised through Australia a proposal for the convening of a meeting with no preconditions aimed at finding a solution to the Cambodian problem. This meeting should be attended by all Indochinese and ASEAN countries, the Soviet Union, the PRC, Australia, as well as all the four Cambodian factions. Observers in Canberra have also noticed that Sihanouk's proposal is not new -- what is new is that the proposal was raised through Australia, which received notice recently for having taken initiatives for a solution to the Cambodian problem.

At the outset of the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia 6 years ago, Sihanouk did not immediately take the stage. He later tried to gain an opportunity to restore Cambodian independence. At that time, sources close to Sihanouk disclosed his opinion that a solution to the Cambodian conflict could be reached by convening an international conference like the 1954 Geneva and 1973 Paris conferences, both of which guaranteed the independence and territorial integrity of Cambodia. At that time, Sihanouk was also confident that Vietnam would eventually accept the convening of such a conference. This could be explained by the existence of several factors: To begin with, Vietnam would face stiff resistance to its occupation of Cambodia. It would suffer the cancellation of economic aid by noncommunist governments — such aid would be resumed only upon its total withdrawal of troops from Cambodia.

Besides, Vietnam would have to consider the huge cost of its military occupation despite the Soviet Union's increased aid. Vietnam's occupation forces would have to suffer casualties, while along its northern border the PRC would exert military pressure. Even though all these factors in Sihanouk's calculations were indeed present, Vietnam still launched massive offensives against the resistance forces 6 years later. Despite these offensives, Sihanouk apparently remains confident that, in the end, Vietnam will not be able to avoid the convening of an international conference that will guarantee the independence and territorial integrity of Cambodia.

MALAYSIA

RITHAUDDEEN, AUSTRALIA'S HAYDEN DISCUSS CAMBODIA

HKO40920 Hong Kong AFP in English 0747 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 4 (AFP) -- Malaysia has asked Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden to clarify basic issues with Vietnam to pave the way for an international conference to resolve the Cambodian conflict, a top official said today. Deputy Foreign Minister Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said that the request was conveyed by Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen during an hourlong meeting here with Mr. Hayden on Cambodia and bilateral issues. He said Mr. Rithauddeen told the Australian foreign minister that Malaysia feared that an international conference might fail without preliminary agreement on "basic issues" like who was to represent Cambodia.

Mr. Hayden is here on a three-day visit as part of a Southeast Asian tour that will also take in Bangkok, Vientiane, Hanoi and Singapore, during which he is expected to raise a proposal for an international conference on Cambodia outlined by Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Canberra last week. Prince Sihanouk said that the Soviet Union and China along with [the] other three permanent members of the U.N. Security should attend the meeting. The six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and Vietnam, Laos, India, Japan, Australia and New Zealand should also be present at the conference, preferably to be hosted by Australia, he said.

The Prince, who heads the U.N.-recognised Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), said that all groups in Cambodia including the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh and the communist Khmer Rouge should attend. Prince Sihanouk's call appears to dovetail with suggestions by Vietnamese leaders for an international conference to discuss regional problems, including Cambodia, diplomats here said.

Mr. Kadir said that "basic understanding" was also needed on other points including "what Hanoi means by the elimination of Pol Pot (the leader of the ousted Khmer Rouge government) and his clique, self-determination for Cambodians and a peace-keeping force." The ASEAN which groups Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia and Brunei wants Hanoi to pull out its 150,000-170,000 troops from Cambodia to allow Cambodians to hold free elections to decide their future.

Mr. Kadir described the Rithauddeen-Hayden talks on Cambodia as a "probing of opinions and exchange of ideas," adding that no firm decisions were reached and that the discussions would continue until Mr. Hayden left for Bangkok tomorrow night. Mr. Rithauddeen also raised the problem of some 5,000 "residual Vietnamese refugees" or boat people left behind in Malaysian camps because they were considered unsuitable for resettlement in third countries.

"We asked Australia to consider taking some of them," Mr. Kadir said. He said that the refugees were rejected by other countries because of their background or because they lacked useful skills.

Mahathir, Hayden Hold Talks

BKO41357 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Malaysia hopes that Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden's visit to Hanoi at the end of this week will be successful in efforts to seek a resolution to the Cambodian problem. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said Malaysia welcomes efforts by any country to resolve the Cambodian issue. The prime minister disclosed that ASEAN is making efforts to resolve the issue through Indonesia. He said this after he was visited by Mr BIll Hayden in Kuala Lumpur today.

The secretary general of the Foreign Affairs Ministry told newsmen that the Cambodian problem and the Antarctica issue are the main topics discussed.

Musa, Hayden Discuss Drugs

BK050923 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Mr Bill Hayden agreed in principle on Datuk Musa's proposal for international cooperation in combatting dadah [drug] abuse. In their meeting this morning, Datuk Musa outlined three measures which could be carried out jointly. These include international understanding against dadah abuse, intensifying the prevention programs of narcotics, as well as the gathering and exchange of intelligence information. Datuk Musa Hitam told Mr Hayden that Malaysia does not feel sorry for its harsh action taken on dadah issues as it has been regarded the most serious problem.

During the meeting, the deputy prime minister also voiced out Malaysia's concern on the trade imbalance between the two countries. In this regard, he called on Australians to invest more in the country in order to improve the balance of trade. The two leaders also discussed the latest developments in the region as well as the Vietnamese refugee problem.

The government will exploit all resources available and mobilize them to expand the capacity for tertiary education. The minister of education, Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi, says the country cannot depend on foreign countries to provide education opportunities for Malaysians. He was speaking to newsmen after meeting the visiting Australian foreign minister, Mr Bill Hayden, in Kuala Lumpur. Referring to Canberra's intention to raise tuition fees and impose quotas on the intake of foreign students, Datuk Abdullah says that this decision lies in the hands of the Australian Government as it has its own problems to settle.

RITHAUDDEEN DENIES COUNTRY ON U.S. 'SECRET LIST'

BK281529 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Feb 85 p 1

[By Faezah Ismail]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tues. [26 Feb] -- Malaysia is not on a U.S. "secret list" giving the Pentagon the right to review or delay the export of certain high technology equipment to 15 non-Communist countries, Foreign Affairs Minister Tengku Adhmad Rithauddeen said today. He said the U.S. ambassador had assured him that if there was to be anything of the kind, the U.S. would have discussed it with Malaysia.

Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said at the moment the U.S. had designated Malaysia as one of the countries which had made a big leap in electronic technology and was concerned that this would go to some non-approved countries. Therefore, the U.S. had to be very careful, he added. Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said there was nothing detrimental in the U.S. stance and that the matter was not as bad as had been reported.

Speaking to reporters after visiting the ASEAN Plant Quarantine Centre and Training Institute (PLANTI) in Serdang this morning, the minister said if Malaysia was to be on any list, the U.S. would get the country's views first on what role it could play to prevent any transfer of technology or any product made here to countries not approved by the U.S.

A recent news report said Malaysia was on a secret list together with several other countries.

The report said the Pentagon had maintained that some countries were used as clearing houses for high-technology products bound for the Soviet bloc, where they were used for military purposes. According to the report, the other countries on the list are Singapore, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Spain, South Africa, Finland, Sweden, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Austria. The report did not say when the ruling came into force or explain the nature of the high technology equipment.

Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said Malaysia was one of the countries which had made tremendous stride in the field of electronics and efforts should be made to further upgrade this. He said this was important because in the decades to come, electronic technology would play a major role in the country's development.

SOVIET SUBMARINES PASS STRAITS OF MALACCA

BKO41331 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Submarines, said to be of Soviet origin, have been reported to have passed quietly through the Straits of Malacca. They have also been detected in the South China Sea near the oil rig off Terengganu and within the exclusive economic zone off the coast of Sabah. The minister of justice, Datuk Dr James Ongkili, disclosed this to newsmen after visiting the high court in Melaka. He said he will visit the oil rig in Terengganu by helicopter this Saturday.

OFFICIAL WARNS ANTIGOVERNMENT PAMPHLETEERS

BK011541 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] The government says it will take stern action against those responsible for the distribution of pamphlets inciting Malaysian students in the United Kingdom to revolt against the Government of Malaysia. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has requested the High Commission in London to forward a copy of the pamphlet to Kuala Lumpur. If, after a study, it is found that a police case can be made out, action will be taken to mab the culprits.

The deputy minister of foreign affairs, Encik Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, told newsmen in Kuala Lumpur that the authors of the pamphlets seemed to be from Malaysia. The pamphlets refer to an incident during the recent Padang Terap by-election. Encik Kadir went on to say that the government will not allow irresponsible persons to mislead Malaysians in other countries with lies, deceptions, and blatant distortion of fact.

On other matters, the deputy minister confirmed that the British prime minister would make an official visit to Malaysia in April. The dates are still tentative and a program is being worked out. Government leaders are expected to hold wide-ranging talks with Mrs Thatcher and the discussions may include the question of the fifth landing right in London for the Malaysian Airlines System.

Earlier, Encik Kadir met the Thai parliamentary delegation at the Foreign Ministry. Issues of bilateral interest and the situation along the Thai-Kampuchean border were discussed during the meeting.

LABOR MINISTER OPLE TENDERS RESIGNATION

HK051126 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Labor Minister Blas Ople today tendered his resignation as a member of the president's cabinet. His resignation was contained in his letter explaining to the president certain statements attributed to him which appeared in the newspapers. The president earlier asked Mr Ople to explain some statements he made on some occasions. Ople said the president has the unquestioned prerogative to require explanations from his cabinet members to clarify any doubts or satisfy any standards. Ople said it is at the president's pleasure whether his resignation will be accepted or rejected.

MARCOS LETTERS TO TOLENTINO, OPLE CITED

HKO41302 Hong Kong AFP in English 1223 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Manila, March 4 (AFP) -- Phillippines President Ferdinand Marcos today fired Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino, and scolded Labor Minister Blas Ople, for their public positions on certain vital issues, official spokesmen said.

Mr. Tolentino, 74, had been the most outspoken member of the Marcos cabinet since his appointment after the May 1984 general elections. He had been openly critical of several administration policies, particularly Mr. Marcos' retention of the controversial powers to make laws by decree after the 1972-81 martial law period. The foreign minister had criticised some presidential appointments, while Mr. Ople had spoken of too much government patronage and also criticised the decree-making powers. Mr. Marcos deemed Mr. Tolentino's positions on some issues "incompatible" with those of the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) party and the government, presidential palace spokesmen said.

A Foreign Ministry source meanwhile said Mr. Tolentino apparently did not expect the president's decision because he had even prepared for a news conference to squelch strong rumors here that he would be fired. Mr. Tolentino could not be reached for comment at the Foreign Ministry, his residence, the National Assembly and his law firm after his sacking was announced. The president's decision was contained in a letter he sent the minister today, the palace spokesmen said. Parts of the president's letters to the two ministers were released today.

Mr. Marcos asked Labor Minister Ople, 58, to explain some of the statements he made recently in two provinces, including one in which he reportedly deplored the system of government "heavily dependent on patronage." "If this is so, may I inquire why you did not bring this to my attention personally before speaking about it publicly?" Mr. Marcos asked in a letter to Mr. Ople, asking "under what authority" the minister delivered two controversial statements. The president said that while Mr. Ople might have referred hypothetically to any government, "there are passages in your speech that seem to indicate that you were referring in particular to the Philippine Government today."

In his letter to Mr. Tolentino, Mr. Marcos said the public positions taken by the foreign minister "could best be taken up with me personally before being released to the media." The president said Mr. Tolentino's actions left him no other choice "if I have to maintain the integrity of the cabinet and the adminstration as I intend to." "It will not be possible any longer for you to continue in office as minister of foreign affairs," he said.

Palace spokesmen said the latest of the minister's "incompatible positions" came when he reportedly said the president had the prerogative to name ambassadors, consuls and vice consuls but the foreign minister clone could designate their posts. Mr. Marcos was also angered by Mr. Tolentino's objection to the president's appointment of an assistant minister, as well as a former Philippine National Bank official who was being reassigned to the Philippine Embassy in Bern, the palace spokesmen said.

Mr. Tolentino, a former senator and leading constitutionalist, was the only candidate of the ruling party who won as M.P. from Manila, where opposition bets won the rest of the six seats up for grabs last May.

Mr. Ople was publicly scolded by Mr. Marcos last January for saying that that country was in an "interregnum' while Mr. Marcos was in seclusion from mid-November due to what was officially described then as a bout with the flu but rumored to be an operation. Mr. Ople, who has been serving Mr. Marcos since he first became president in 1965, has also indicated he was against the president's decree powers and has urged the drafting of a constitution to replace the current one, which guarantees the powers.

Tolentino on Dismissal

HK050710 Hong Kong AFP in English 0639 GMT 5 Mar 85

[By Cecil Morella]

[Text] Manila, March 5 (AFP) -- Sacked Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino today said President Ferdinand Marcos' decision to fire him was unfair and that he might quit the ruling KBL party.

"If you consider it as a decision, I do not think it was a fair decision because he did not verify what happened. He just relied on a newspaper report," Mr Tolentino told a news conference here, adding that he did not expect it.

Mr Marcos yesterday relieved Mr Tolentino of his post and scolded Labor Minister Blas Ople for announcing their positions on sensitive issues recently to local newspapers. Mr Tolentino said the press reports were "not accurate." Mr Tolentino said the letter he received last night saying his positions were "incompatible with the government" and the president, differed from presidential palace releases to the press which cited his differences "with the party and the government."

"If he says that my positions are incompatible with the party, I would ask for an explanation, because I have never been defiant of the party," Mr Tolentino, who has been the most outspoken member of the Marcos cabinet, continued. "I do not feel bound to separate from my party but that is tentative.... If I feel that the president really believes and if the party leaders believe that I don't go along with the decisions of the party, for their own peace of mind, I would prefer to leave the party," he added. The minister, who received a standing ovation from reporters and ministry employees as he appeared for the news conference, read his reply to the president today.

"The president has known me for a long time, and I am sure he knows that I cannot change my convictions and my standards of good government... I did not consider that complete agreement with him and suppression of my thoughts were conditions for my holding the position," it said. "The president did not have to give any reason for his action, but it is surprising that he should, without verification, rely on a newspaper report," the letter added.

Mr Tolentino, 74, had been openly critical of Mr Marcos' retention of his controversial powers to make laws by decree even after the 1972-1981 martial law period. Mr Marcos said he also criticized some presidential appointments. Asked if it was a sign of a disarray in the ruling party, he said "I would not think it has gone to that extent." "I think that there are signs that people within the party are beginning to believe that they can express themselves freely. And perhaps my separation from cabinet was the president's way of saying no, you are not really very free." He said he expected Mr Marcos to pursue this policy. "He will dismiss everybody (in the KBL) who is hardheaded," he added. He said Mr Ople was "being given a warning by my separation."

Mr Ople, 58, was publicly scolded by Mr Marcos last January for saying that the country was in an "interregnum" while Mr Marcos was in seclusion from mid-November due to what was officially described as a bout with the flu but rumored to be an operation. Recent press reports which displeased the president quoted Mr Ople as deploring the system of government "heavily dependent on patronage." Asked if it was a sign that the president was becoming intolerant, Mr Tolentino said "the man in power usually becomes intolerant." He said President Marcos's request for him to consult with the president first before he made a public statement contrary to him was "good in theory" but impossible in practice. "Too much has been expected of me as a cabinet minister, and for the good of the president and myself, it is best that we part ways in the cabinet," he added.

He said he would go back to his law practice and continue in his present role as a dissenting ruling party member in the national assembly. Mr Tolentino said he did not know who his successor would be.

Successor Not Yet Named

HK050904 Hong Kong AFP in English 0900 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Manila, March 5 (AFP) -- Pacifico Castro, deputy of sacked minister Arturo Tolentino, is currently acting foreign minister, an official said today.

President Ferdinand Marcos yesterday fired Mr Tolentino, one of the most outspoken members of the cabinet, for announcing his position on sensitive issues recently to the press, which the president said were "incompatible with the government" and himself. Foreign Ministry spokesman Franklin Ebtalin told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Mr Castro's temporary succession was "automatic" in case the incumbent was removed from office.

Earlier today, the 74-year-old Mr Tolentino told a news conference that he does not know who his successor would be. Mr Ebtalin said they did not know if Mr Marcos planned to replace Mr Tolentino immediately. "We've heard of a list, but we really don't know," he said.

Popular speculation here is that Mr Marcos would appoint either his brother-in-law, ambassador to the United States Benjamin Romualdez, or former deputy minister Manuel Collantes. Both are M.P.'s for the ruling New Society Movement.

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6 MARCH 85

